

NATIONAL STUDENT ISSUE 3 18 SEPTEMBER 1978
CRACCUM CHAFF SALIENT CANTA CRITIC



During the past three years the employment situation in New Zealand has declined into a situation comparable with that of the 1920's - 1930's depression years. The only step taken to relieve the situation has been the introduction of T.E.P. (Temporary Employment) which is directly comparable to Relief Work in the thirties. Firms looking for labour under the T.E.P. Government subsidy must create new jobs, not replace existing employees with subsidised employees. However, as the Labour Department cannot check all these, some firms will be capitalising on the situation.

Some (very few) of the jobs available are interesting, but most are boring and repetitive. The stress is on Temporary, so this measure only alleviates part of the immediate problem, there is no long-term planning.

Election campaigns so far have not introduced Unemployment as an election platform; rather it has been ignored. Perhaps they reason that if it's brushed under the carpet no-one will notice.

Probably they're right. People with work do not care about those without, except for a few cases.

"Dole Bludgers" is a term often used. So is "Spongers". Most people need to work, particularly if they have outstanding debts, or want a few of the so-called "comforts" of life - cars, T.V. sets, houses. On the unemployment benefit these are luxuries, beyond the dreams of most. Food, shelter, and clothing are necessities of life, and must all be paid for out of a benefit, which is low enough to make life difficult. The unemployed have no recognised right to a fixed benefit. It is assessed on earnings in the past year, savings, also age. (Those over 20 years receive more than those under).

When your year's earnings are assessed (by directly contacting your employers) this sum is divided by 52. This is your loss of weekly earnings. If this sum is less than the benefit, that's all you get, theory being if you've managed to live on it this long, you can keep doing it. Hard luck if you've been noble, self-sacrificing, and had principles on "handouts", if you've been living on your savings, this drags your average down.

IT CAN HAPPEN TO YOU

UNEMPLOYMENT IN CHRISTCHURCH



Members working in the communal garden.

Also, when you register unemployed, there is one week's "stand-down" where you don't get paid. When asked why, the person I spoke to said she thought it was so that people couldn't get the benefit if they'd been off work ill or something for a couple of days. I've heard some wonderful stories before but

A group that has been active in informing unemployed people of their rights and assisting them in times of hardship is the Union of the Unemployed. This is run by people out of work to help others in the same predicament. Membership is free, and its aims are:-

1. TO DEMAND A DECENT STANDARD OF LIVING FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.
2. TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE IN GAINING THEIR FULL ENTITLEMENTS FROM THE LABOUR AND SOCIAL "WELFARE" DEPTS.

These issues are discussed and planned at Union meetings by the people who attend. Some examples of their work follow.

A person was sacked from his temporary job for requesting an inquiry into work conditions at work, i.e. rats in the smoke-room. He was classed as voluntarily unemployed by the Labour Dept., and not eligible for benefit for one month. He had \$13.00 to live on. Try it sometime. The Union tried all the usual approaches to the departments involved, with no success. They decided to hold a picket outside the City Council offices where the Minister of Welfare, Bert Walker, was to attend a meeting. They presented their grievances to him with a request

for him to do something about it. He merely went inside to his meeting.

The Union members decided to march to the Social Welfare Department and put their case there. After much hassle and buck-passing they were assured that the case would be reviewed and they left. The person was re-instated and received the cheque the next day.

Recently Mr Waters in the Social Welfare Dept. asked the police to call in on Thursdays and Fridays as tension was mounting in the offices due to many dissatisfied unemployed people in the office. I'm not sure how they thought the presence of police officers would help - surely that would merely increase the tension.

On the Friday members of the Union of the unemployed dressed as police and went to the offices to hand out leaflets outlining the rights of the unemployed people, and help them in applying for the unemployment benefit. After this they went around the Square distributing leaflets and speaking with people. The reception they received in the Social Welfare Department was mixed. Many of the people employed there are employed under the Temporary Employment Scheme, and many are in sympathy with the unemployed. However, the reaction from the Heads of Department and permanent workers was extremely negative.

The leaflet handed out to people in the offices and in the streets contained instructions on what to do if you become unemployed. One point is very clear: If you do lose your job, REGISTER AS UNEMPLOYED IMMEDIATELY. As mentioned before, there is a one-week stand-down, during which you do not receive any benefit, and your benefit is dated from the time you register not from the time you lose your job.

Processing of your registration and application takes about three weeks, so you don't get any money until then.

If you leave school, university, or prison, you can apply for the Emergency Benefit Rate, but this takes at least two weeks to reach you.

Many of you leaving University at the end of the year will find there



is no work for you. If you haven't found work before you leave, register as unemployed immediately after your final exam. In some cases Temporary work will be found, and generally an attempt is made to match your skills and qualifications with a job.

1. Register Immediately.

-Unemployment benefit is **not** backdated. -If you wait 13 weeks before registering, your application will be declined, and you cannot register for another 6 weeks. When you do re-apply, your benefit could be reduced.

Registration (in Christchurch at least) takes place at the Department of Labour, in the Housing Corporation in the Square. Take a good book with you as you will have to wait quite a while. At this interview you may be offered a job, and your reasons for declining must be very very good (or you may be classified as Voluntarily Unemployed).

If you don't get a job, you should be given a form (ES11) to take to the Dept. of Social Welfare (same building, just around the corner). If they don't give you one, ASK!

2. At the Dept. of Social Welfare, present form ES11 whereupon you will be given yet another form, the Application for Unemployment Benefit (UB1). Fill this out, give it back to them, and be prepared to wait even longer than last time, for another interview.

It helps here if you take any relevant material with you, IR12's, references, and a list of employers over the past year, Student ID's etc.

At no time should you lie, because they **do** check with your employers (hence the three week wait for your money).

3. There are three criteria for deciding how much you get, and how soon.

1. Age and marital status.

You must be over 16 years of age.

16-20 year-olds are on a lower rate than those over 20.

After four weeks you can apply for additional benefit to cover rent if you're hard up (Warning:- if your parents live in the same town and you don't live at home, they want to know why not).

If you are a couple under 20, you get more by applying as a couple, if over 20, more by applying separately, theory being that two can live almost as cheaply as one (ever tried it?) And of course, Bert has it in for de-facto couples and solo parents, so be careful.

11) Loss of Weekly Earnings.

This is covered above.

-Remember you don't get anything for living off your savings.

-If your earnings over the last 12 months average to less than the dole they pay you the lesser sum.

111) Voluntary Unemployment.

-Here your application is declined, and you can't re-apply for two to six weeks, depending on the mood of the Department.

This applies if (a) you left your job without a **very** good reason;

(b) you were fired for misconduct;

(c) if you turned down a job offered by the Labour Department without a **very** good reason;

(d) if you are fired or suspended because of a strike by your Union (even if you yourself weren't on strike), or you refuse to cross another Union's picket lines, or scab.

(e) If you can't (when asked) provide proof that you've taken reasonable steps to obtain work (keep a list of places you've applied to and been refused).

(f) If you haven't worked for the 13 weeks prior to your application.

You have a right to leave work if you genuinely cannot do it, or if it is causing you physical or emotional strain. Get a **MEDICAL CERTIFICATE**.

If you thought enrolling at 'Varsity was bad, wait until you've finished playing Twenty Questions with the Labour and Social Welfare Departments.

Some of the ways you can help the Unemployment situation in New Zealand are:-

-Ask your Party Candidates just what they intend doing about unemployment, and keep asking until you get a reasonable answer. (In a recent speech in Christchurch, Mr. Muldoon talked about unemployment for 35 seconds!)

May I remind all anti-abortionists that unemployment is of prime importance to them. If you're going to protect the unborn child, you also have to protect his prospects of employment and rights to a decent standard of living.

-If you meet someone who is unemployed don't look down on them, and don't deride them for not working.

There are not enough jobs to go around. People who sanctimoniously preach that there's work for those who want it are talking pure shit; perhaps they'd like to resign their jobs, and try finding others.

-If you yourself are unemployed, stand up and fight. You have a right to a decent living standard; do something about it.

Whoever was responsible for the phrase "The meek shall inherit the earth" was talking a load of shit. All the meek inherit is the shit left behind everyone else. You may inherit a nice afterlife, but if you don't stand up for your rights here, you'll be quicker getting there; you'll probably starve to death, and martyrs are out of fashion these days.

If you're unemployed, there are very few people who are interested, apart from those in the same boat. Get together and organise yourselves; form food, labour, garden co-ops. Find sympathetic people willing to help, and if you have a job, remember "everything changes, nothing remains the same."

You could be in the same situation yourself in the not too distant future. If you're on Temporary or Relief work, who's to say how long that will last? The government pays, remember, and it's cheaper to pay someone the dole than it is to pay them a wage. Solidarity is all.

Thanks to the Union of Unemployed (Ch.Ch.) for information and assistance. I wish they'd been there when I played Twenty Questions.

Barbara Scott.

Photos: Bruce McLay



The Union runs an information service in the Square every day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is in the old youth booth, near the Post Office.

There is a Union centre at 298 Cashel Street where unemployed people can go and talk to others in the same boat. This support is vital as depression is a very real problem for those on the dole. The sense of worthlessness imparted by the general public's comments, and the boredom of having little to do each day have their effects.

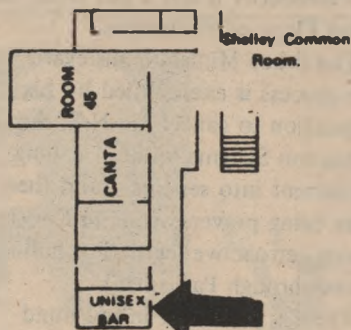
A communal garden has been set up by the Union with donations of land, seeds and gardening tools.

Anyone willing to help is welcome, and should contact the Union, Phone 63-279.

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Speech delivered by Whetu Tirakatene-Sullivan to Canterbury University Students (Abridged).

Of course, there is no way in which one can provide absolute proof on an issue like this where emotion and interpretation are contributory elements, but I want to select examples of what I believe to be indications that all is far from well in the State of New Zealand.

How many New Zealanders actually agreed with the S.I.S. Bill? How many agree with Norman Jones that unemployment beneficiaries are lazy layabouts? How many who are still in jobs believe that those who now haven't any just haven't really tried hard enough? How many would agree with Bert Walker's claims about solo parents and domestic purposes beneficiaries going through the travail of separation just to get that weekly benefit?

We must not, of course, get hysterical. Paranoia is one of the chief instruments of Fascism. Nonetheless, we should not renege on recording occasions which manifestly bear all the elements of Fascism, and seeking to isolate their common source.

In Parliament, when I made the observation recently that notable international social commentators had described elements in the New Zealand State today as "Fascist", Government Members objected loudly, Cabinet Ministers rose to their feet, and the Speaker was compelled to order me to withdraw the word as it was "un-Parliamentary".

In similar vein, Government Members have reacted with equal anger to the concern I have expressed about Maori educational under-achievement, and charged me with being a "racist". The irony never escapes me.

Observing the apparent impotence of Government Members, and even Ministers, compared with their Prime Minister, it follows reasonably enough that the latter is described as a leader of unreasonably dictatorial propensities. Characteristically, he has had his reaction in defence - namely, that he went overseas many years ago, and voluntarily, to fight against dictatorships. It is not sufficient to deny the charge; the action of dictators has to be deplored.

I have no idea what the role of our most publicised Corporal was, nor how much he altered the course of the Second World War, but that is just about as relevant as many of his other philosophical utterances!

I do not want to enter into a discussion of the need for organisations like HART or Civil Liberties in New Zealand - or, for that matter, of the many other pressure or interest groups with which our society has been endowed. However, I have no doubt whatsoever about their right to exist, and to express their ideas and ambitions, whether the Government of the day likes it or not.

I believe that the attitude of a leader who cannot stomach opposition to his own personal opinions, a leader who defines a dissenter as "anyone who disagrees with me" or (as an after-thought) with the Government, is, with perfect validity, described as "Fascist".

Such a leader identifies loyalty to himself with loyalty to the State, and sees any attempt to overthrow his or his Government - or even opposition to a particular policy of his Government - as treason.

It is important that in a democracy, nobody has the right to shut anybody else's mouth. We have the right to speak our thoughts. If we are stupid,

THE ELEMENTS OF FASCISM

- ARE THEY ALREADY HERE?

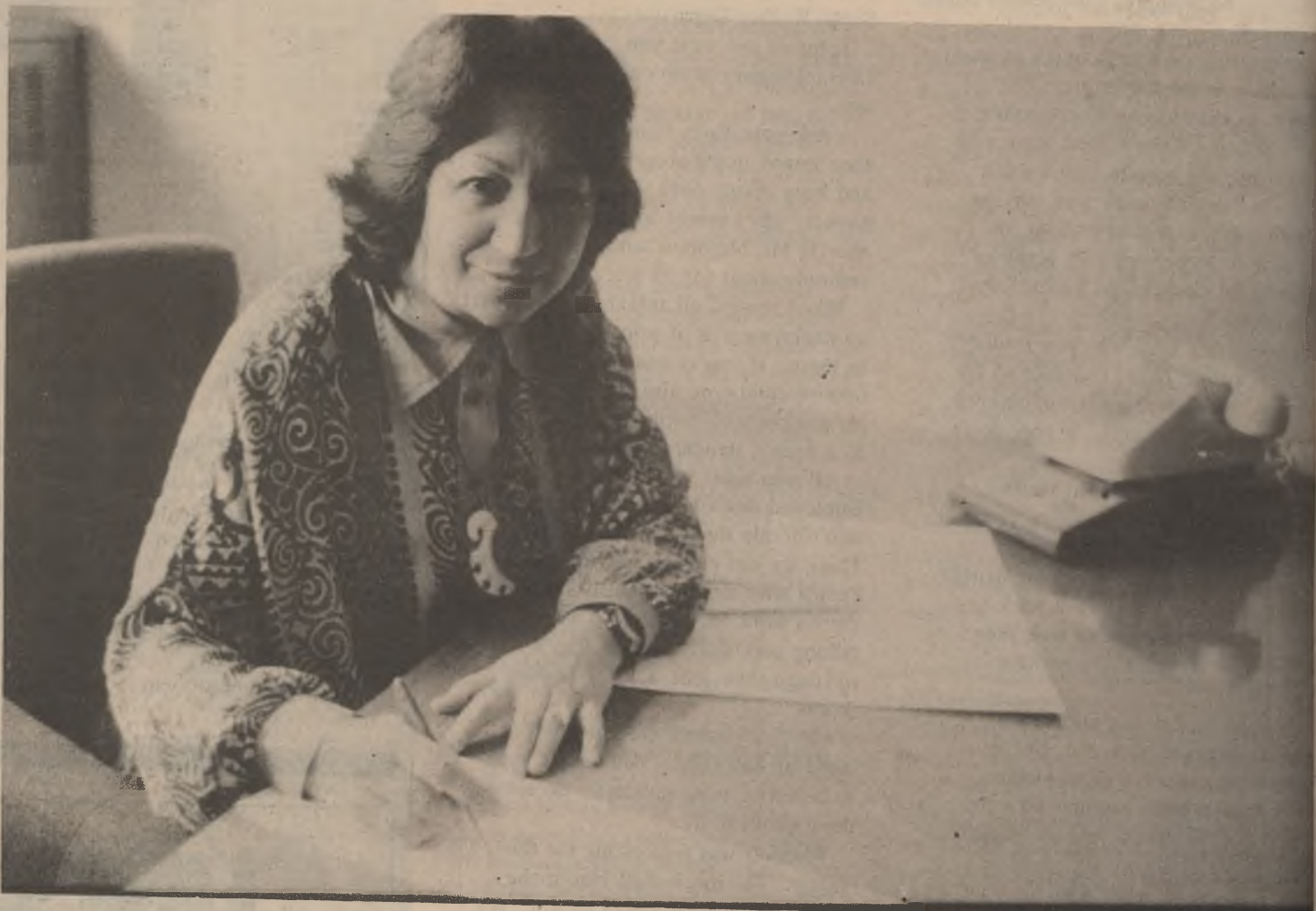
"If we are stupid, we can be mocked.

If we are libellous, we can be prosecuted.

If we are misinformed, we can be corrected.

But THE INALIENABLE RIGHT TO FREE EXPRESSION is not a gift from the Third Floor of Parliament."

Photos: Bruce McLay



we can be mocked. If we are libellous, we can be prosecuted. If we are misinformed, we can be corrected. But THE INALIENABLE RIGHT TO FREE EXPRESSION is not a gift from the Third Floor of Parliament.

The Prime Minister's disregard for due process is exemplified by his instruction to cancel the N.Z. Superannuation Scheme without calling Parliament into session - and then after being proven wrong in Court, having retroactive legislation bulldozed through Parliament.

There is no doubt in my mind that the Prime Minister's statements about the Matai case in Greymouth on the weekend were definitely in contempt of court.

At a meeting on Saturday night he made statements directly bearing on a matter being considered by the Court. There is no ambiguity in this matter; he is in contempt of Court.

It's up to the Solicitor-General to prosecute the Prime Minister for this major contempt of Court.

The Government has, on more than one occasion, had to pass legislation at virtually the last minute in order to avoid breaking the law itself. In order to do this, it has used all the methods that Parliament allows to stifle debate: The Act that eliminated N.A.C. was the most recent example last week, when we sat until 2 am - without radio transmission, of course. Increased motor licence fees were legalised in the same way. Some of the most controversial legislation has not been submitted to Select Committees for public scrutiny and debate, as it should have been - and the most

sinister in this category is the notorious S.I.S. Amendment Act.

It is out of order in Parliament to refer to another Member as a liar, and that does inhibit debate to some extent - but I can clearly remember the confusion that existed at the time of what has become known as the "Overstayers" issue. The Prime Minister and the Minister of Police apparently did not know that the police were involved - or so they said, and in the final instance the enquiry that had to be held was a secret one - like the deal with the Japanese and the report on the Air New Zealand takeover of N.Z.A. It seems that some police constable or sergeant got the chop, but the man who should have borne the burden of Ministerial responsibility carried on with his job as though nothing had happened, his RSA badge gleaming

We could almost deal with this question in headlines: Bastion Point, the Electoral Roll fiasco, The Police Amendment Act, the personal abuse poured over fellow Parliamentarians - the Horta visit, Ian Shirley, David Exel - the list goes on and on.

The question is: Whether or not this signifies Fascism? If it does not, what does?

Do we have to wait until the Beehive is burned down - like the Reichstag - and a scapegoat furnished - perhaps the Pacific Islanders or those with a Clydeside accent Do we have to wait until the public has been brainwashed into thinking that Trades Unions are anti-patriotic so that they can be outlawed - or until Universities and the Public Service become agents of the S.I.S.? If the choice is between an error of omission and an error of commission, I would rather that we were

blamed for being over-cautious than that we should have to blame ourselves for not having spoken or acted in time.

Has the N.Z. community come to value toughness over compassion? To admire political thuggery over rational debate? Yet to implicitly support Government's scape-goating of visibly-evident and vulnerable community groups.

How many of those who still number among the decreasing proportion of the HAVES are content to believe that the HAVE NOTS deserve what they get?

How many New Zealanders are finding such examples as the Bastion Point round-up are whetting an appetite of intolerance?

Was Dr. Moodie, National Secretary of the NZ Police Association, correct when he stated to the Select Committee on Violent Offending: "Intolerance, like a malignant cancer, is literally destroying our society"?

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ARTS FESTIVAL

Christchurch May 5 - 12, 1979

Following the enormous success of the 1977 National Festival of The Arts in Wellington, The New Zealand Students' Arts Council has decided that the Arts Festival concept should be an ongoing thing.

At NZSAC's May meeting, Canterbury University presented its case and was successful in gaining the Festival for May next year. We decided that the May vacation was a more suitable time for a festival because the weather is generally warmer, and is more distanced from the academically pressured third term.

The festival will be centred on the Canterbury Students' Association building and adjacent facilities. We are fortunate in that the Student Union building and the nearby Teachers' College offer some of the best venues of any tertiary institutions in New Zealand.

The festival is envisaged as a two-tiered approach. Firstly we are seeking widespread involvement from student groups and individuals as the basis of the festival. Over this will be a large number of professional and semi-professional people

who, aside from giving performances/exhibitions etc., will work with students and other artists in a series of workshops that will be the basis for mutually beneficial exchange. Therefore with this concept in mind it is obvious that the festival relies heavily on student groups and individuals being prepared to bring their art to the festival. Now is the time to look toward May and to start thinking about presentations for the festival.

For organisational purposes the festival will be divided up into the following areas: Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Film, Music, International and Fringe.

Performing Arts

The main aspects of the Performing Arts at the festival will be Dance, Theatre and Poetry.

Dance
The mini-festival of dance run in Wellington last year was an immense success. We hope to work along the same pattern - workshops in the morning, performances in the afternoon, over a five day period 7-11 May. We wish to involve students and professional groups/individuals from throughout N.Z.

Theatre

The standard of Theatre on N.Z. campuses is very high. The festival provides an opportunity for campus groups and a small selection of professional groups/individuals to perform in a wide range of venues. 1979 is International Year of the Child, therefore, we would like the festival to contain plenty of Children's Theatre. Cathedral Square, the focal point of Christchurch, provides an ideal venue for both Children's and Street Theatre.

Poetry

Christchurch poet Michael Harlow is working on the Poetry programme, and he envisages a diverse range of N.Z. poets at the festival. We are aiming at one large public reading, smaller advertised readings and spontaneous readings. We would like to generate some discussion during the festival of the present standing of poetry in N.Z.

Film

The film programme looks most promising for the festival. Our Film Contractor is well conversant with the film industry and with his previous experience in film festival organisation will undoubtedly present a film programme of quality, depth, variety and abundance. Some never to be repeated oddities such as non-stop 12 hour showings are under consideration (e.g. 12 hrs of non-stop Marx Brothers or 12 hrs of rock movies).

The Visual Arts

Five major exhibitions are anticipated for the festival, plus many smaller exhibitions of students' works. There is no shortage of space in Christchurch for exhibitions. Fine Arts students in particular are invited to display their work at the festival. To this end people now preparing submissions should keep the festival in mind as the academic year nears its end. We hope to present festival-goers with the opportunity to participate in spontaneous painting, sculpture etc.

Music

Blues, Folk, Classical, Jazz, Rock, Electronic, Experimental.

Rock: Rock music will be a popular attraction to many festival-goers. Therefore, we will be presenting the very best of N.Z. bands at the festival.

Classical/Jazz: These areas are being controlled by Phil Norman, a doctorate student at the Canterbury School of Music. Once again we will be having a large public jazz concert. This will be held in the Christchurch Town Hall. People with ideas or wishing to participate in these areas should contact Phil, C/o The Festival Organisers.

Folk/Experimental/Electronic/Blues: To be honest, very little has been done in these areas. Any help or suggestions would be appreciated.

Fringe: This covers anything which doesn't neatly fit into any of the others. This includes radio, debating, chess, political art, happenings, events, etc.

International: No international arts have been finalised, negotiations in this area are in the hands of NZSAC.

Opening Day: Saturday, 5th May is the day, a huge extravaganza of happenings to start the festival on a high note, involving large-scale public participation - any ideas?

Space prevents us from going into further detail, e.g. things technical and monetary. If you require greater detail about any aspect of the festival, please contact the Organisers.

Your campus may be one of those that already has a local festival co-ordinator; if not, write directly to the Organisers.

The key note of the festival is its people, the artistic participants, the observers. We also need people to work in the areas of sound, lighting, construction, publicity, back-stage, front-of-house, ticketing etc.

People will make or break this festival.

The festival Organisers can be contacted through:-

THE FESTIVAL DIRECTOR,
C/o UCSA.,
Pvt. Bag 11am,
CHRISTCHURCH 4.



\$4.20 \$4.20 \$4.20 \$4.20

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LOST

On September 7th between S3 and Stud. Assn. - Gold Sheaffer Biro pen with all-over pattern. Of great sentimental value. REWARD. Phone 596-450.

BIO SOC STEIN

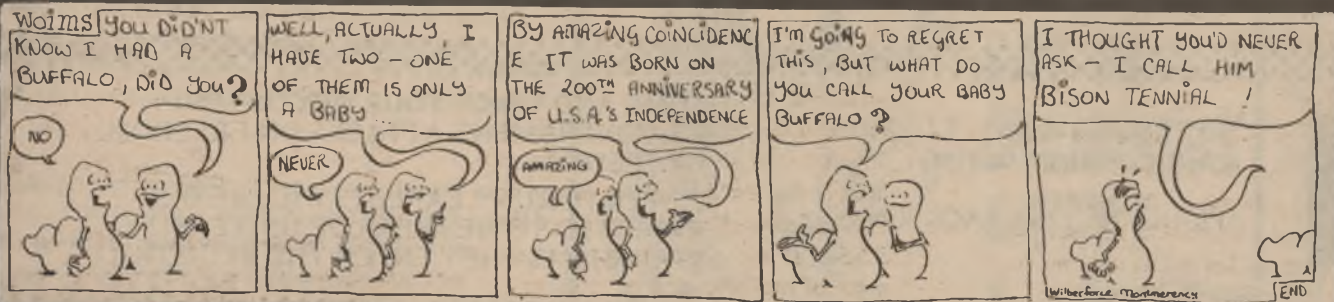
Friday 22nd September - Upper Common Room. 5.30 - 11 p.m.

C.M.S.A. FILM EVENING

Feature: 'The Alamo'
Starring: John Wayne
Date: 24th September (Sunday)
Time: 7.30 p.m.
Place: Upper Common Room
Admission: 50 cents.
Light supper provided.
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Letters

Dear Ed.

Full marks to Dave Breen for his avowed intention to provide Union facilities for disabled students - particularly those in wheelchairs. The way these facilities are at present, I fail to see how O.U.S.A. can charge these students full fees with a clear conscience.

It may be easy to dismiss these people as a tiny statistic but it must be remembered that the Union is also run as a catering facility for outside groups which frequently include disabled persons.

Over the years this shortcoming of the Union building has caused considerable embarrassment and has probably cost the Union several outside functions. If the building were being built today it would have to cater for persons in wheelchairs by law, but it may offer a useful lead to other owners of older buildings if our facilities were upgraded in this way.

As I see it, a cheap beginning would be to convert the left side of the Union Hall stairs into a ramp - thus making all of the ground floor at least accessible from the inside by wheelchair.

The ultimate improvement would be a passenger lift at the north end of the building - even if it could only be used with staff permission. This would also solve the problem of men's toilet facilities for the disabled.

God only knows what such a lift would cost, but at least the Welfare Officer deserves all the support he/she can get on this one. How about putting next years Capping proceeds into this project for starters?

Andrew McIntosh

Dear Madam,

I am a part-time student who paid full students association fees like everyone else.

I finish work at Green Island at 4.30 p.m. and arrive at the Union approx. 10 to 5.

I have a lecture from 5.10 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

I would dearly love a cup of coffee before my lecture.

The coffee bar is closed, the milk bar is closed, the dining room is closed, the hot-drink machine is out of order.

Do I have to bring a fucking thermos-flask with me?

Bruce Collier

P.S. Would the coffee bar being open an extra 15 mins bankrupt the Union?

It is unfortunate that the Union cannot keep both catering areas open at once and during the changeover period 4.45 to 5.30 it is difficult to get anything to drink or eat. I spoke to Mr Lucibella about your problem and he is opening the main Caf at 5 p.m. for coffee. The food starts at 5.30. There has been little advertising of the hours of these services and the fact the servery is open but out of sight from the Caf entrance (ed).

Notices

OTAGO UNIVERSITY YOUNG NATIONALS CLUB

Wednesday September 20, 12.30 p.m. Main Common Room. Miss Marilyn Waring, National M.P. for Raglan will speak at a Forum.

UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

MEDICINE, DENTISTRY, PHARMACY AND SURVEYING

Applications for admission in 1979 to second year classes in Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Surveying, must reach the undersigned not later than 1 NOVEMBER.

Forms of application for those enrolled at a University may be obtained from the Registrars of Universities in New Zealand.

Candidates sitting the Entrance Scholarships examination and applying for direct entry to second year classes in Medicine should obtain the form of application from the undersigned.

ADMISSION TO THE RESIDENTIAL HALLS

Information concerning the Residential Halls may be obtained from the Accommodation Office. Applications close on 15 November.

D.W. Girvan
REGISTRAR

September 1978

STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday September 21st
7 p.m. Terrace Lounge

Agenda includes:

Women's Rights Officer on Exec.
Double fees
State of the Finances
Arts Council
Med. Student's Caf.
NZUSA Special Levy
OUSA referendum on NZUSA

and more

All Student Councillors are warned to attend lest they find their positions lapsing.

CRITIC ADMINISTRATION BOARD

Wanted: Two students
One Treasurer

Appointed on the floor of Student Council Meeting
September 21st.

DELEGATES TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Applications are called for two delegates to represent the New Zealand University Students' Association at a General Conference of the Asian Students' Association and a Students' Education Commission of Asia meeting.

Both meetings will be held in Hong Kong in late December. Air fares to the Conference will be paid by NZUSA and a per diem allowance will be provided.

Applications close on 30 October 1978 and should be addressed to:

The President
New Zealand University Students' Association
P.O. Box 9047
Courtenay Place
WELLINGTON.

Any questions concerning the meetings should also be addressed to the President of NZUSA.

The selection of delegates will take place at the November meeting of the National Executive of NZUSA. The date for this meeting has yet to be set but all applications will be informed of this. Applicants are expected to attend this meeting and speak to their applications.

ODS END OF YEAR FUNCTION

AGM + WINE + CHEESE

ALLEN HALL

WED. 27th SEPT.

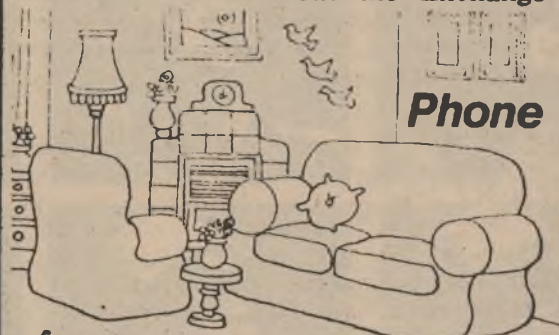
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COUNCIL AS THEY ENTER THE REGISTRY.

Waste Not...

At a joint meeting in the Museum auditorium on September 11th the four political parties discussed their respective attitudes to the environment and all with the exception of National (which has a tendency to be boring and refuses to play the game like everyone else) put forward their election policy.

Richard Prebble (Labour) criticized the Government for bureaucratic decision making and a limited flow of information. Labour proposes a freedom of information law so that people might be included in the decision making process. This means slightly improved consultation and an independent (by statutory regulation) Commission for the Environment. The recent audit of the Clutha scheme was heavily attacked because it was done after the decision was made and not before.

The way in which the decision was made was wrong and brings into disrepute the decision making process. The decision to go ahead was based on faulty power projections but even now when this has been rectified Scheme F is going ahead. Labour opposes this scheme but otherwise supports large scale power as the most desirable method of finding renewable and pollution free power. Labour would implement the scheme for a lower dam.

Forests are another area of concern to Labour. They would stop all logging of indigenous Westland forests. The present Government recently placed a moratorium in June although it is quite on the cards that that will come off shortly after the elections. Native forests must be preserved because they are unique to New Zealand. The West Coast is dependent on logging for most of its income and a complete halt to Beech forest felling is to Mr Prebble, ridiculous. To protect forests Labour would enlarge and create National Parks.

Harvey Ruru, standing for Social Credit in Dunedin North emphasized conservation. There is presently a conflict between the needs and rights of people and the environment. He emphasized social pressure rather than legal enforcement as a means of balancing the two. This would be helped by the drawing up of a code of ethics and a special Ministry concerned with the environment and conservation.

It was refreshing to hear Social Credit talking from a viewpoint other than economic one. Like Labour they are against destroying native forests.

Socred policy resembles Values policy with an emphasis on renewable energy forms such as locally owned liquid fuel plants. Mr Ruru suggested that 10% of New Zealand's agricultural land be set aside for creating indigenous energy forms. This didn't go down too well with Mr Venn Young a farmer by usual occupation who thought it was highly impractical.

More effort needs to be put into providing more convenient rail and bus services. Socred prefers small scale hydro schemes and alternative energy forms to large scale works like the Clutha. They support the low dam scheme and oppose development of nuclear power.

Mr Venn Young, Minister of the Environment represented the National Party but not their election policy because it has not been released. It is a wonder he even attended; local man Richard Walls is refusing to attend joint meetings. Mr Young spent most of his time answering criticisms of previous speakers. According to National their record is a good one - they've stopped nuclear power (for

fifteen years), lowered Manapouri and set up an "independent" as Mr Young calls it Committee for the Environment. The whole tone of his speech was patronizing and greasing up Environment group representatives. He attracted some heavy questioning from all sectors and succeeded in answering very few questions. Paul Powell, author of 'Who Killed the Clutha' (a rather expensive book detailing the history of the clash over the Clutha) attempted to put Mr Young on the spot and received a short reply that Mr Powell had a 'convenient lapse of memory'.

Values Party candidate for Dunedin North, Mr Peter Brook emphasized the need for various communities to become self reliant. By this he meant not relying on any particular basics or staples that could not be obtained locally in reasonable amounts. Values Party differs in that its environmental policy is integrated with all its other policies, unlike other parties. He said we must "begin now to change the ways we grow before change is forced upon us by a series of crises". That basically was the theme of his speech.

Values future involves minimizing waste (limiting packaging, canned items, penalizing waste) and maximizing recycling. It emphasizes regional small scale operations (complete with travel subsidies). Conservation, electrification of the main trunk line and installation of solar water heaters. In fact Mr Brook's speech was full of 'we wills' but then I suppose they can afford to make promises because the likelihood of their gaining parliamentary power is still in the future.

Wet Dreams

The announcement of the Government's new plans for further hydro development in New Zealand mark a major shift in policy, but will do little to satisfy its critics, particularly in the South Island. Nothing has been done to alter the policy of using the South Island as a powerhouse for the North; in fact, recent events have shown that this policy, far from being a geographical accident, was conscious and deliberate on the part of successive governments, both Labour and National.

Doubts about the necessity and viability of the Clutha power scheme have been raised frequently since 1975, when the Labour Government, contrary to the recommendations of the Commission for the Environment, decided to go ahead with the construction of Scheme H, the so-called 'high dam.' This represented a major victory for the power-planners and engineers of the Ministries of Works and Development, and Electricity. The decision was attacked at the time it was announced, for a number of reasons. There were critics who questioned the need for any kind of power scheme at all; there were those who were concerned about the fate of the Earnscleugh apricot orchards; and there were those who were annoyed because the scheme made no provision for multi-purpose development of the Clutha River. The government, or rather, The Wellington bureaucrats, had committed Otago to yet another scheme to obtain maximum power at minimum cost, with no thought being given to environmental considerations.

In the last three years, nothing has changed. The Government - now National - pays reluctant lip-service to the concept of multi-purpose development; they have yet to produce plans to show that they are taking the idea seriously. The bureaucrats and engineers have pushed the Government into beginning preliminary roading and construction work on the dam site, in spite of the fact that final water rights for the scheme have not yet been granted; in spite of the fact that a number of appeals against the scheme have been lodged in various courts; and in spite of the fact that adequate compensation has yet to be arranged for residents of Cromwell and Earnscleugh who will have to be re-located to allow the scheme to go ahead. Watching a Government Department - supposedly public servants - act in this high-handed arrogant and contemptuous manner is not a pretty sight.

An even uglier sight is the Government's reaction to two reports published early this month. The first of these was an audit report on the Clutha scheme by the Commissioner for the Environment. His criticisms of the actions of Government departments were pertinent and far-reaching. Unfortunately, we will probably never

know what his original report said: it was censored by the Government before its release. In what was left of the report after Government censorship, he showed no enthusiasm for the hydro scheme, and criticised Government departments for acting wrongly in anticipation of appeals regarding the Clutha. In an attempt to save face, the Minister of Energy, George Gair, rejected this claim, and stated that the Commissioner appeared to have listened to only one side of the story. The possibility that the Commissioner had listened to both sides and rejected the bureaucrat's case on the strength of the evidence presented to him seems to have eluded the Minister.

The second report to show the Government in a bad light was the quinquennial estimate of New Zealand's power needs, tabled in Parliament on September 5. This confirmed that the country's power needs have fallen by at least 25%; a drop of this magnitude necessitated a total re-planning of projected hydro and thermal power development. In the North Island, five power projects have been scrapped completely, and nine others delayed by periods ranging from one month to a year. In the South Island, the Ohau A, B and C scheme on the Waitaki River have been delayed by between four months and sixteen months. The Clutha Valley scheme will go ahead as planned, but its completion date has been delayed for two years. The rationale behind continued exploitation of the Clutha is that Maui gas is to be diverted from its initial use for thermal electricity generation in the North Island to develop a petro-chemical industry

The decision to change the use made of Maui gas is sensible in view of the continuing rise in the cost of oil imports, but such a decision is no excuse for the continued use of the South Island as a powerhouse for Auckland's industry and heated swimming pools. In June last year, Mr. Gair told a public meeting in Dunedin that most of the electricity generated from the Clutha scheme would be used in the South Island; the new plans provide for a second Cook Strait cable, at a cost of \$100 million to carry Clutha (and, presumably, Waitaki) power to the North Island. The cable has been recommended because of the renegotiation of the Comalco contract has meant that the smelter's planned automatic expansion will not take place; and because estimates of the South Island's electricity demands have been heavily reduced. If this is so, why should South Island lakes and rivers continue to be plundered by a North Island unable to reduce its own power demands? Why not generate the power needed on a North Island river?

There are two simple reasons for the decision: a majority of Government members are North Islanders with little knowledge of our concern for the South; and, more importantly, since the Wellington bureaucrats and engineers have already started work on the Clutha site, they do not wish to have the embarrassment of admitting their original mistake and transferring their operations north of Cook Strait. The result is that one of the most beautiful, untamed stretches of river in the country - the Kawerau Gorge - will be despoiled in order to cater for the pig-headedness and ignorance of a group of short-sighted planners who are not accountable to the public, and who have, behind the scenes, dictated power policy to successive Governments.

This situation is unacceptable. Not only is policy being made by bureaucrats rather than Governments, but the South Island is apparently expected to happily forego its natural resources in order to supply, by and large, energy for the parasitic industrialists of Auckland. The Government would be foolish to expect the people of Otago to accept this situation, in spite of the best efforts of Warren Cooper, National's man in Otago Central. It will become a major election issue, and the fight will not stop there. If the Government does not stop the Clutha scheme then we may well see a massive, militant campaign of physical obstruction of construction operations. It is time for the South Island to assert itself, and prevent itself being pushed around by Wellington and Auckland: the Clutha issue may become the rallying point for a struggle for South Island independence.



MINISTRY OF WASTE AND DESTRUCTION: BRIAN O'BRIEN

Voting— Is It Rational?

Do people in New Zealand vote on issues? According to one model (the Downsian) they should, but the evidence suggests they don't.

To be a rational voter you must be a political activist, aware of parties' stands on issues, and how likely they are to stick to them once they are elected (i.e. are they lying bastards?). Research, both in New Zealand and overseas indicates that people couldn't really be bothered. They vote on the basis of two or three prejudices with little idea of the parties stands on issues. The vote is not a product of reasoned consideration, but of traditions, personal associations, status-related organization memberships (e.g. Jaycees), ethnic and socio-economic (i.e. Class-social scientists always have been moral cowards).

A quick examination of voting patterns in Godzone shows how ignorant some of the voters are. 15% of National voters didn't know what their (not mine) party's policies were on the 5 most important issues as they themselves saw them. Labour voters are less ignorant - 9% of them couldn't identify their party's stand on the biggies.

Of course, the voters aren't entirely to blame for this. New Zealand political parties, because they all have pre-tensions to power, don't like to commit themselves on contentious issues such as compulsory abortion, ice hockey, tours to South Africa and sexual relations between consenting albatrosses of the same gender, because it might lose them votes which shows how moral New Zealand's political parties are.

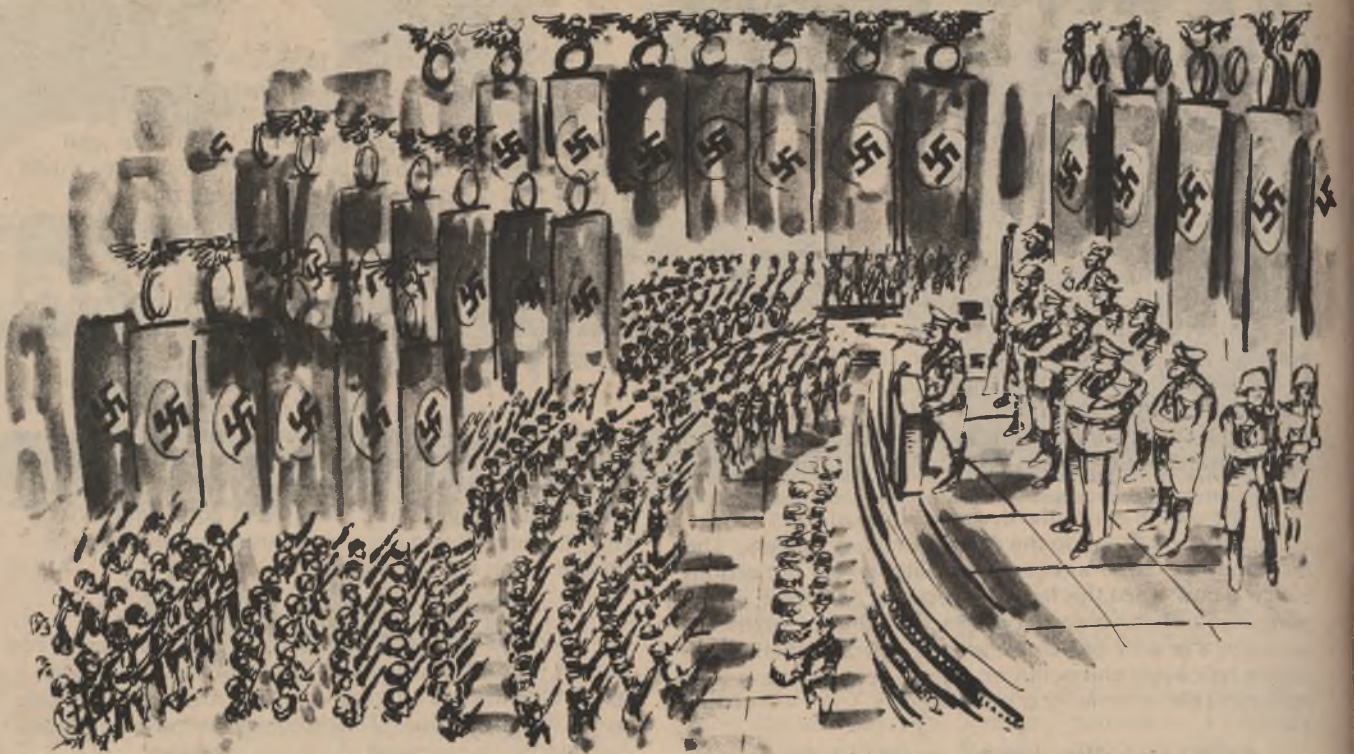
New Zealanders don't, however, show much interest in irrelevant things such as Civil Liberties and racial oppression. No, what Joe Average is interested in is MONEY. If her/his pocket is full of readies she/he won't vote against the government. Doesn't matter if they're reading her/his mail or tapping her/his phones, as long as she/he can afford the colour T.V. and the weekend skiing, the government is safe.

Of course the parties don't advocate the same economic policies - National blames it on the workers, Labour blames it on the owners, Social Credit blames it on the bankers and Values couldn't care less (being middle-class Maori Hill radicals with incomes of \$15,000 at least). Not understanding Social Credit, not many people vote for them, so it comes down to a straight fight between Labour and National. This fight's sides are drawn on class (dare this man say that New Zealand's classless society is a myth?) lines. Thus in Christchurch in 1966, 77% of the upper professional class (i.e. the rich) voted for (you guessed it) National. Only 14% of the unskilled labourers did. It can be argued that people don't vote so much from income as from what they think they are - upper, middle or lower class. The white collar workers would suggest that this could be right, voting more for National than they should (I, of course, think that New Zealanders overall vote more for National than they should).

Some people argue that the voter doesn't have to be aware of the issues, merely of the parties respectable (in N.Z. respectable as opposed to respective) ideologies. But what ideology does the National Party have (apart from to beat shit out of the Labour Party)? And the Labour Party seems to have lost its vision of the Great Red Dawn somewhere along the way. Values - their honey-sweet (sorry, sugar isn't ethnic enough) socialism wouldn't suck in a blind wombat. Social Credit - the printing-press party, answers everything by printing more money (sorry, credit vouchers).

So its obvious that you can't get very far on ideology in New Zealand. Issues? You can't trust New Zealand Parties to keep promises (remember National's one to pass an Act banning electronic bugging?). Personalities? You've got a choice between baby-biter Muldoon, Wallace ("I'm so nice") Rowling, Jimmy Carter's rival (in the grin department), Brucie, and Tony Who?

Which way should the rational voter then vote? Total up the time its going to take to get down to the polling booth, the petrol you're going to use doing it, the anguish of finding you've been left off the Roll and you'll probably find its better to forget the whole thing and have a beer instead.

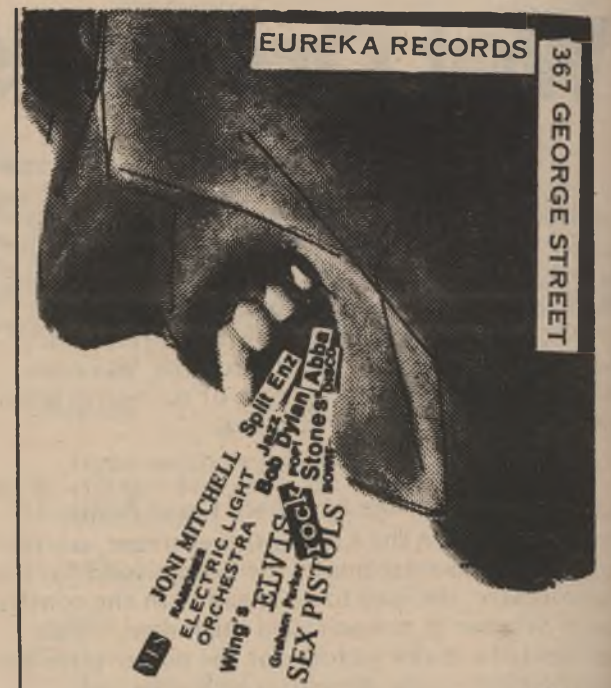
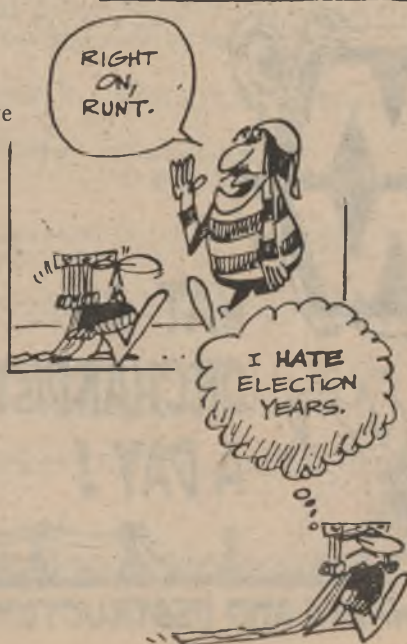


"Thank you. For my next trick I'd like the back six rows to invade Russia."

Credits

Janet Gootjes, Belinda Carter, Brian O'Brien, Alistair Stewart, Tim Jones, Simon Kilroy, Roger Tobin, Martin Durrant and to David Batchelor who didn't go rampant with his black pen for once. And to Lyn and Robyn who have the patience to put up with an editor during a frequent period of temporary insanity.

Critic is the newspaper of the Otago University Students Association. The National Issue is published by the New Zealand University Students Association, 32 Blair Street, Wellington and registered at Wellington P.O.H.Q. as a newspaper.



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Join us around the Log
Fire and share a pizza
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Pe

Sometimes, attitude to the (or her - ed). excellent. Bursaries, supported, a poor students in g caught by the present

However, student opposition main political the way to th They have al improved party's policy forestall claim

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Penny For Your Vote

Sometimes, I'm completely baffled by The Average Student's attitude to the Bursary which supposedly so infuriates him (or her - ed). 600 students turn out to oppose the SIS Bill - excellent. But when a protest is organised over student bursaries, supposedly the issue about which today's self-centred, apolitical, bloody minded students are most concerned, a poor excuse for 200 turn up. One wonders if students in general are really hard up, even if the minority caught by the various idiotic exceptions and abatements of the present regulations feel the pinch.

However, while I'm not too convinced about general student opposition to the present regulations, the four main political parties all appear to be firmly convinced that the way to the student vote is through the bursary cheque. They have all produced or are producing supposedly "new & improved" bursary policies, and the current state of each party's policy is set out below (in alphabetical order, to forestall claims of bias).

LABOUR: The Labour Party haven't yet produced their bursary policy for the 1978 election. In fact, Dunedin Labour Party HQ in Rattray St. were unable to give me anything on their bursary policy when I called round and had to write away to Wellington to obtain something for me. Eventually, I was presented with a copy of a document called "Answers to Questions on the Labour Government's Record on Student Bursaries". This, however, seems to be designed for inter-party use, as it makes some disparaging comments about the last Labour Government's record on the issue and does not give any hints as to their new policy. Thus, while it was good of them to give me an internal document, its use in the present case is limited. The only other indication of the current Labour position is a terminally boring speech made by Labour's Trevor Young to the bursary marchers in the Octagon, in which the salient points appeared to be Labour's commitment to raising bursary levels, keeping parity between the bursaries for different categories of student (Varsity, Polytech. etc.) and NOT removing the abatement - hardly a popular announcement. However, until the party comes out with its election policy, nothing much is revealed.

NATIONAL: Once again, National haven't announced any policy as such, but the current situation is roughly as follows: National haven't made any changes with regard to the abatement, etc. The various inequities and absurdities of the present STB regulations thus remain. In this year's Budget, good old Rob announced a \$2.50 increase in the STB - and a removal of the income tax abatement. These moves left nearly every student worse off, and National, perhaps embarrassed by the transparency of the move, admitted that it had been a "mistake". It was widely anticipated that they would restore the tax exemption, at least for students. However, this would have put them in a difficult position. It appears that the removal of the tax exemption was primarily part of National's package of measures designed to force the working-outside-the-home mother back in to the home (or "preserve the sanctity of family life", in their rhetoric). Perhaps as an oversight, this move also clobbered students, but to placate the students without reimbursing the women would have been too much for even National women to stomach. Instead of this, therefore, National added another \$1.50 to the STB from 1979, and there things rest.

SOCIAL CREDIT: A visit to Socred's Information Centre in Dowling Street provided me with a friendly discussion and their '75 bursary policy, which, I was assured, would remain essentially unchanged for '78. Herewith the main points:

- All full-time students at Varsity/Polytech, with appropriate entry qualifications, will receive annually renewable bursaries to cover boarding allowances, fees & other basic costs, providing satisfactory progress made and required number of courses passed.
- Teacher trainees to be paid a salary as at present.
- Cost of living allowance (during the period it will take a Social Credit Government to bring inflation under control!!!!).
- an iffy one here: "Bursaries would be differentiated between student groups according to circumstances and the extent of the costs involved - some subjects involve much higher costs than others, such as consumable material and field work." Personally, if any course differentiation is going to be done, I'd much rather have it kept separate from the STB.
- there would be NO BONDING!!!!
- no means test ("with its associated degrading attributes").
- there would be "investigations" (a Royal Commission, maybe?) into the needs of part-time students - as one who at present falls into this category, I'd have thought that part-time students had been around for quite long enough to allow the formation of a policy on them.

Not a bad policy, although I'm suspicious of the lack of hard figures (obviously think it's going to take a while to bring inflation under control!).

VALUES: To find out Values' 1978 bursary policy, I only had to search as far as my copy of the June '78 "Vibes", the Values Party newspaper. The policy hasn't exactly been publicised widely yet (21/8/78) but it should have been by the time you read this. The policy was announced by Values spokesperson Karen Roper at Wellington Polytechnic and the salient (no pun intended) (none taken) points are:

- Amount to be at least as much as the unemployment benefit (currently \$46.28 for a single person) and preferably more to cover books etc (the basic idea being that the bursary should support a student through the education year - support level to be 'established through surveys').

- no means test.

- no abatement!!!!!!

- bursary should be indexed to cost of living, adjusted on six-monthly basis (again, like the unemployment benefit - an attempt to confirm students as bludgers in the public eye?)

- to be paid fortnightly and taxed ("it should be an income rather than a bursary").

- adult full-time students at secondary schools and, eventually, all full-time students over 15 to be eligible for the full bursary.

- Tim Jones

Tim Jones provided us with this article shortly after the holidays. It probably duplicates part of what National Office (NZUSA) has written in this issue.

ENTERTAINMENT

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'See you there'

CRACCUM

In the final issue of last year, Craccum printed an article by one Don McKay, former 'political investigator' for the paper. He declined our earnest invitation to repeat the performance, but passed us on to a friend and relative who kindly obliged with what follows:

Accountant: A clerk with a pocket calculator.

Alliances: Devices by which our leaders have attempted to unload responsibility for our defence onto somebody silly enough to stick around. Since the rash of nuclear visitors seems to have come to an end it would appear that the sucker of last resort has gotten wise. Rumour has it though that Big Daddy is negotiating a deal with Indonesia. If we help them conquer the New Hebrides, Solomons, Cooks, Samoa and Tonga they will promise to keep the Communists away.

Average Bloke: The sort of guy who hardly ever beats up on his wife and kids more than once a week, and never fails to put in three nights a week at the pisser with the boys.

Bureaucracy: Mindless, heartless, bungling, incompetent, idle, wasteful, etc, ad infinitum. A whole new vocabulary which has arisen over the past year to allow National Party sympathisers to attack the Government's policy without attacking the Government. If Cabinet, or an individual Minister, makes an imbecile decision, the editorial writers can quite safely foam at the mouth about the evil bureaucrats in the Public Service being responsible without offending the people really responsible. Soon the Government itself caught onto what a good thing this was, so no whenever it becomes apparent that a decision is going to arouse resentment, the National Party's own activists take the lead in abusing the bureaucrats and thus helping the Government get away scot free. The real joke, though is that any public servant who attempts to defend himself is liable to be summarily fired for disloyalty to his Minister. A real killer.

Creeping Socialism: Any form of economic management at all.

Conservatism: A strange system of beliefs based on the idea that the state of the world at any given moment is ideal. Before it was changed to what it is now they thought that the state it was in beforehand was the ultimate. When it is changed into something else in a decade's time they will think that is the ideal. One could get all deep about this little bundle of paradoxes but in fact all it comes down to the fact that Conservatives are rich people who don't give a shit. In fact real Conservatives are quite rare and without much power, otherwise we'd still be living in the trees believing we had reached the pinnacle of social organisation by getting as far as picking fleas out of one another's armpits.

Communists: The endangered species, fragmented into a number of sub-species. They devote their time to the study of the Nineteenth Century messianic tracts and attempting to secure footholds in places where they erroneously believe power resides. There is reason to believe that the numerous Communists sects are all covertly financed by the National Party with whom they have a highly advanced symbiotic relationship.

De Facto Relationship: The failure, for whatever reason, of a solo mother to have her children adopted and commit herself to a convent.

Democratic Socialists: The ambidextrous wing of the Labour Party. They blow democratic Monday to Wednesday, socialist from Thursday to Saturday, and teach Methodist Sunday School on Sunday.

Democracy: A concept which, so far as New Zealand is concerned, has passed into history. When it came to the crunch the people decided they would rather own their own house, boat, two cars, colour TV, Hi-fi tape deck with Dolby

Ecology: Like everything else of lasting significance this is not an issue in New Zealand politics.

Electoral Rolls: Latest craze to exploit the New Zealander's passion for games of chance. Can you get on the roll? And even if you do, how do you know they're going to count your vote?

Election Manifesto: Documents which will invariably say on Page 1 'We will make no promises' and then spend the rest of the space making liars of themselves.

Ex-patriot: Any New Zealander with brains, initiative and enough money to buy a ticket. I will predict that every first year student reading this diatribe will, five years from now, have more friends in London than in his/her hometown.

Export Year: Major achievement has been the breaking of all records for the export of big-pig on the hoof.

Foreign Affairs: The 1975 experiment of handling the country's inter-national relations over to the New Zealand Rugby Football Union was subverted by an evil conspiracy of nigger commos. The 1976 experiment of sending Big Daddy's travelling roadshow to London,

Paris and Washington was subverted by the effete pseudo-intellectual nitpickers in the International Press. In 1978 we're reduced to privateering Japanese and Korean fishing boats. It's time to try a real dinkum chunder-in-your-jug Kiwi approach - isolationism. Let the bastards see if they can do without us.

Freedom of Speech: A privilege granted only to the silent majority and only for so long as they remain silent.

'Getting New Zealand back on its feet': Looking for someone puny enough to put the boot into.

Government Energy Conservation Policy: Rest for thirty months between elections.

Governor General: Well, it got the old buggie out of the way didn't it? And you must admit he carries it off.

Human Rights Commission Act: A major breakthrough in legal drafting. Not only full of loopholes you could drive a bus through, but comes complete with driving instructions for the bus. By guaranteeing less than could have been taken for granted beforehand, it effectively diminishes individual rights.

Independent: 'Two two the lilly white boys' - an ex-party hack who still has traces of custard pie on his face.

Investigative Journalism: When they have to go looking for the Prime Minister's Secretary before he can tell them what to write.

Labour Party: A hollow vessel awaiting an opportunist.

Law and Order: Big Daddy gives the order and changes the law to fit afterwards.

'Let's be responsible about this': A phrase which tends to occur a couple of sentences in advance of a Prime Ministerial temper tantrum.

Liberals: Foolish folk who believe it is possible to be reasoned and intelligent about politics.

Maori Land Rights: An issue the Government hopes will disappear as quickly as the Maori land.

Moonies: Every flower you buy helps kill Commies.

Moral issue: Those children of MPs not born out of wedlock?

Muldoon Economic Miracle: How to turn a book-keeping shambles into a complete economic collapse in only three years.

National Superannuation: One good reason why anybody under the age of 30 who doesn't emigrate is soft in the head.

National Party: A hollow vessel under the control of an opportunist.

Parliament: Big Daddy's rubber stamp.

Populist: Compulsive liar.

Private Enterprise: In New Zealand, a totally mythical beast. In practice it tends to mean the channelling of the fruits of public enterprise into private pockets. The wealthy in New Zealand have always favoured spectacular rather than productive enterprise.

Reaction: The true creed of the masses. Every decent clean-living Kiwi believes in the myth of the ideal past. They believe that New Zealand was once a paradise on earth and leader of the world in all sorts of things. 'If only we can go backwards far enough everything will be grand again.' New Zealanders live in mortal dread of the future and lust for the past. New Zealand's current decline is not an accident caused by mismanagement. It is the logical outcome of the choice of the majority of the country's citizens to spend their lives trying to recreate an ideal imaginary past rather than to work in the present to build a viable future.

Social Credit: Ever wondered who Billy Graham would vote for if he were a New Zealander?

Socialists: A strange sect of extreme Protestants who've lost their prayer books somewhere along the line. They believe 'the State' has a direct line to God whereby 'Heaven on Earth' can be attained. Their effectiveness in practical affairs is limited by their inexplicable tendency to prefer glorious last stands to quiet victories, ie 1913, 1951, 1978, etc.

SPUC: Society for the Protection of Unwanted Children.

Unemployment: The Government's strategy to give poor people a meaningful role in the battle to protect rich people's money from the ravages of inflation.

Values: Who?

'We must protect the nuclear family': Coded identification signal used by SPUC-owned and operated politicians.

'We are a Christian nation': The first person to disagree gets crucified.

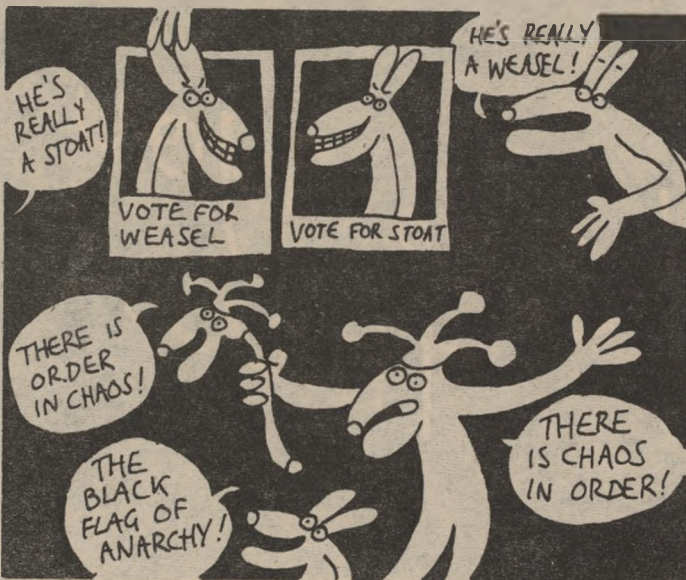
Women's Rights: (1) Pregnancy (2) Pregnancy (3) Miscarriage (4) Pregnancy

World Vision: The Tory challenge to CORSO. 'I mean if we're not going to make Christians out of all those wogs we might as well let them starve.'

Young Nats: Front for underage drinking by children too delicate to mix it with the great unwashed down at the local Rugby Club.

RAYMONDE SLICKER

Enzed Election Elphabet



© '78 DEREK WARD

The Hype Report

The decision to undertake this survey of student opinion on various issues was based on a number of factors. Firstly, this an election year and with the elections only a matter of months away the time seemed ripe for some indication of the way students feel on issues raised by events during the last few years and immediately prior to the election itself. Students have been active in a number of areas which are shaping up as election issues. These include the items listed in question 'F'.

Secondly, the August Council of Students' Associations decided on the priority to be given the issues in question 'F' and it was thought it would be interesting to see if students attached the same relative importance to these issues.

Thirdly, it was felt that if an election policy by one of the major political parties to increase student bursaries to a level comparable to unemployment benefits had an effect on student voting patterns (as revealed by this survey and valid to the extent that this survey is valid), then not only would this demonstrate that such a policy received student support but that it could provide a rational basis on which to approach the whole question of bursaries in the future.

Many people will no doubt be quick to point out that any survey of this nature, based as it is on a sample of students, has limitations and they would be correct to do so. Firstly, to obtain a random sample it would be necessary to feed the names of all students into a computer and programme it to select students at random for the survey. This was not feasible for reasons of cost and lack of time.

Secondly, this survey was conducted at Auckland University and so the results reflect the various biases of the sample used. It would be straining these results to generalise to an opinion of students on other campuses because obviously there exists differences in the orientation of student opinion from campus to campus; eg, as between Victoria and Lincoln. However, keeping this in mind it should be possible to extrapolate these results to obtain a general indication of student opinion as a whole.

Thirdly, and perhaps most significantly this survey does not pretend to be an 'opinion poll' in the sense in which that term is popularly used. The results of this survey will be of limited value in predicting the outcome of the national election but they may be useful to indicate the importance of some of these issues in election campaigns and in influencing the overall outcome.

Several assumptions had to be made in constructing the questionnaire. It was assumed that a random sample could be obtained by conducting the survey on the basis that a representative body of students would make use of facilities provided by the Student Union on a certain day between 11 am and 3 pm. This assumption

was based on the fact that most students would be preparing for examinations on the date selected, which was Monday September 11, and would therefore be in or around the Student Union during the relevant hours. Also, a number of activities involving student participation were held on that day. Obviously this assumption suffers from a number of limitations.

The method of survey adopted was by way of interview with interviewers selecting individuals at random as they passed a certain point or entered a certain building etc. The main contact points were the coffee shop common rooms, library, student cafe, and in the quadrangle at the Student Union. Interviewers approached the person selected and in a majority of cases asked the questions on the questionnaire and filled in the responses. This was done to give standard results and reduce the variety of responses to general questions and so simplify analysis. A sample size of 300 was thought to be sufficient to obtain statistically significant results.

Specific assumptions were made in the survey as pointed out below.

(A) AGE

(i) under 20: it was assumed that until students reach the age of 20 years that their political opinions are in a state of flux (hopefully) and that the experience of student life and the presentation of alternatives allows them to respond to issues on an informed basis and not on party lines. However, family voting patterns probably play a large part in forming political consciousness especially for students who have not voted before and who lack a general perspective of party ideology.

(ii) 20 - 24: this was assumed to be the age group where economic realities may have polarized political opinions but conscience issues, such as abortion, may influence the voting of this group.

(iii) over 24: this represents an arbitrary cut-off point on the basis that the majority of students will fall in the other two groups.

(iv) it was assumed that all students involved in the survey would be eligible to vote.

(E) POLITICAL PARTY

(5) Other: it was assumed that most students would vote for one of the major political parties and any other preferences could be conveniently grouped under this heading. Other preferences included:

Protest vote	1
NZMP (Marijuana Party)	1
No confidence	2
Socialist Unity	1
Alternative National	2
Independent	1
Communist Party	1
None of them or not voting	15
Undecided	33

(G) INFLUENCE OF ISSUES

It was assumed that most students would be influenced by the issues in item (F). Responses to other issues included the economic situation, personality of leaders, foreign policy, less strict dog laws, reduction of vehicle registration fees, increased defence spending, and banning of political parties. Also some gave multiple issues and this is reflected in these figures. It should be stated that industrial relations and concern for the environment were the two major issues appearing under the heading 'other'.

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

A raw data table has been included to allow those interested to make their own correlations. The actual number of people interviewed was 297.

If the election had been held on September 11 this survey indicates that students would have voted as follows:

National	28.28%
Labour	25.92%
Values	14.47%
Socred	12.47%
Other	18.85%

These results are rather surprising and perhaps indicate the important role that will be played by voters who are as yet undecided as to how they will vote in November. Outside the University community, National and Labour would probably share a larger percentage of the overall vote at the expense of the other parties. The significance of these results lies in the fact that 58% of the 'other' figure represents undecided voters.

If people who have said they are not voting (because they are ineligible or otherwise is unknown) or that they would vote for none of these parties changed their minds during the election campaign and decided to vote then the Undecided vote could well be decisive in the outcome of the election.

On these results if National or Labour could capture the bulk of the undecided vote by polarising them on suitable issues it could mean the difference between victory or defeat. However, this is based on the assumption that these results are representative of the community at large and as I have pointed out this may not be the case. It is difficult to resist the urge to speculate though.

In this sample 58.9% of those interviewed were male and 42.1% female. This relationship would probably be different in the community as a whole. A break down (on a sex basis) of the way people voted follows:

	Male	Female
National	26.7%	30.4%
Labour	29.6%	20.8%
Values	13.3%	16%
Socred	14.5%	9.6%
Other	15.6%	23.2%

THE QUESTIONNAIRE

		Other	Socred	Values	Labour	National	Bursaries	Unemployment	Civil Liberties	Abortion		
A. Are you :	1. under 20	to 20	33	22	24	37	57	82	27	62	59	21
	2. 20 - 24	20 — 24	20	13	13	30	24	25	6	34	45	15
	3. over 25	over 24	3	2	6	10	3	8	0	8	8	8
B. Are you	1. Female	Male	27	25	23	51	46	67	19	63	72	18
	2. Male	Female	29	12	20	26	38	48	18	41	40	26
C. Faculty:		Law	9	1	4	9	7	11	3	12	9	6
		Science	15	12	10	16	18	33	10	30	20	11
D. Have you voted in a national election before ?		Arts	21	14	17	41	25	41	11	34	53	20
	1. Yes	Engng	6	5	5	2	6	7	6	10	4	4
	2. No	Commerce	2	1	5	2	17	9	3	9	13	2
		Medicine	1	3	1	3	6	10	4	0	10	0
E. What party would you vote for if the election was held today ?		Architecture	2	1	1	4	5	6	2	7	3	1
	1. National	Voted	15	7	14	25	12	25	3	28	31	11
	2. Labour	Not Voted	41	30	29	52	72	90	34	76	81	33
	3. Values	Abortion	5	4	11	9	15					
	4. Social Credit	Unemp.	24	13	10	27	30					
	5. Other (specify)	Civil Lib	20	14	19	37	22					
	6. Would not vote	Bursaries	7	6	3	4	17					
	7. Not sure/Don't know	Economy	9	12	6	18	26					
F. Rank the following issues in order of importance to yourself:		Civil Lib	13	7	8	22	5					
	1. Unemployment	Unemp	3	5	5	13	8					
	2. Abortion	Abortion	5	2	7	5	10					
	3. Civil Liberties	Foreign	0	3	0	7	3					
	4. Bursaries	Personality	1	2	3	8	6					
		Other	12	6	9	5	10					
G. What issues will influence your vote ? Specify		Bursary Rise	25	20	15	25	30					
H. If a major political party adopted a policy of increasing bursaries to the level of unemployment benefits would this influence you to vote for them ?												
	1. Yes											
	2. No.											

see we didn't make it all up ourselves



see we didn't make it all up ourselves

Continued from page 11

This indicates that Labour had marginally stronger support than National among males interviewed while the reverse was obviously the case with females interviewed. Also, a large number of females indicated that they were undecided as to how they would vote.

Of those in the sample 25% had voted before and 75% had not voted previously. A break down of results on this basis follows:

	National	Labour	Values	Socred	Other
Voted	16.4%	34.2%	19.1%	9.5%	20.5%
Not Voted	32.1%	23.2%	12.9%	13.3%	18.3%

Labour and Values attracted a larger number of votes from students who had voted before than did National. Surprisingly, National had stronger support among students who had not voted before than did Labour and could be indicative of the trend among people voting as first timers.

Of the issues which people were asked to rank in order of importance to themselves the following table shows the break down of ranking on a first preference basis:

Abortion	14.8%
Unemployment	35.1%
Civil Liberties	37.7%
Bursaries	12.4%

Clearly Civil Liberties and Unemployment are the issues about which students are most concerned. NZUSA at August Council decided the order of importance of these issues as follows:

- (1) Unemployment (2) Civil Liberties (3) Bursaries (4) Abortion.

While these results do not confirm that ranking, they do show that NZUSA have seized on the two issues of prime concern and directed their attention to these areas. An analysis of the raw data shows that Unemployment and Civil Liberties were the main issues for students regardless of political leaning except in the case of Social Credit who ranked Abortion as being marginally more important than Unemployment.

In relation to the issues that people said would influence their vote many indicated that the issues in item (F) were the issues that they would take into account in deciding which candidate or party they would vote for. Also, some people gave long lists while others didn't respond to this question at all. In fact it was surprising how many people didn't answer this question. This may be due to the fact that many felt they had already indicated which issues they felt were important in answering Item (F) and any other issues were of little importance in comparison with these. The effect of this is that the analysis of results in this Item must be read in conjunction with results in Item (F) and as an extension of those results if they are to have any significance. The break down of these figures follows:

Economy	26.9%
Civil Liberties	20.8%
Unemployment	12.8%
Abortion	9%
Foreign Policy	5%
Personality of Leader	7.5%
Other	15.9%

Clearly the economy, civil liberties, unemployment, the environment and industrial relations are the main issues which attract the attention of students as a second preference.

An increase in bursaries to the level of unemployment benefits would influence the vote of 38.7% students. However, since students at all institutions of tertiary education constitute such a small percentage of the voting public this is not likely to become a major issue unless students can attract public support on a massive scale for a bursaries increase. On a party basis the following analysis indicates the effect a bursaries increase would have on voter attraction:

National	35.7%
Labour	32.4%
Values	34.8%
Socred	54%
Other	44.6%

Obviously an increase in bursaries would attract strong support and easily swing student voters one way or the other.

Unfortunately, lack of space and time prevents further analysis of the raw data in the table but anyone who is interested will be able to do this for themselves.

One final word about the importance to be attached to these results. I have pointed out the limitations and assumptions relevant to this survey. These results have limited application, except as a general interest exercise to students and this was the basis on which it proceeded. Any analysis of results comment or speculation has been done as impartially as was humanly possible. Unless the limitations inherent in this survey have qualified the results into meaningless doubletalk it is hoped that students will find this survey interesting if not entertaining.

COLIN McFADZEAN

Angel Mine

This, the last of the national issues for the year, is intended as an election 'handbook' of some description. It seems likely then that it will be fairly 'heavy' in most senses of the word. So, in rather perverse fashion, Craccum is offering something completely different, and almost, but not quite, totally out of context. Anyway -- if Salient can give us politics and the arts in the first national issue why not the arts and politics in the last?

David Blyth is a 22 year old Auckland University graduate who majored in Art History. A couple of years ago, with a group of friends (including The Plague's Richard von Sturmer), he made a film called 'Circadian Rhythms'. It was screened at film festivals throughout the country and he even hawked it around Sydney. But, due to its length (very short) and its content ('avant-garde'), it was never released commercially.

So how is it that the government-established and funded Film Commission have invested \$20,000 in David Blyth's yet-to-be released 'Angel Mine' with additional finances including a \$6000 grant from the QEII Arts Council and an undisclosed sum from private investors?

'Angel Mine' is an unusual, if not unique, film in the very short, rather uninspired history of New Zealand film-making. And it will be the first of the Film Commission assisted movies to be completed since that body's conception. All of which is rather ironic, considering the content of the film.

David rejects such labels as 'avant-garde', 'experimental' or 'arty' when applied to 'Angel Mine', and not merely because they are unsaleable commodities. For want of a more suitable pigeonhole he calls it a psycho-drama, one where the 'realities make the fantasies a little easier to identify with'.

'Angel Mine' is set in the heartland of New Zealand suburbia. The young couple live in Pakuranga, a classless suburb, a ghetto for the nouveau riche, where money, not birthright, is the only pre-requisite for residence. They have all the trappings, from the Lockwood house to the Rheems water heating, but they are not happy.

Out of their dissatisfaction and almost unwittingly, the couple create The Phantoms, their doppelgangers. The traditional blacksuited shadows, they are a manifestation of the couple's fantasies; they 'represent' their sensual, physical selves. Having mortgaged their own lives into torpidity, the couple have lost touch with their environment and, so, reality. The Phantoms are the passion within.

But 'Angel Mine' stretches further than mere indictment of the New Zealand suburb. As an isolated nation we rely, says David, very heavily on the media for information. We take our knowledge of current affairs straight off the 6 o'clock news without ever thinking to question.

The same applies to commercials; they create our norms and desires and by doing so they infringe upon our privacy. This, says David, poses the greatest danger to New Zealand society. The escape routes inherent in ourselves are being impaired by the commercial media. The ability and opportunity to create our own fantasies is being constantly eroded.

PAGE 12 SEPTEMBER 18 (CRACCUM) NATIONAL STUDENTS' ISSUE



David Blyth, Derek Ward & Jennifer Redford talk about 'Angel Mine'.

The result of this is isolation. Aside from the couple, the only other characters are played by 'screen personalities', Myra de Groot and Mike Wilson, embodying the media influence. The couple exist within their own complacency, in a virtual vacuum. But this was only how David and his actors imagined they would live. While the film was being shot on location in Pakuranga, it became more and more obvious that the situation was not imaginary.

While 'Angel Mine' is a political film, it is not propaganda. Just as commercials deprive us of our own fantasies, so do films and David is well aware of this. Rather than try to manipulate the already over-manipulated, David likens 'Angel Mine' to the literary mirror, where all we get is more of ourselves.

David calls 'Angel Mine' New Zealand's first example of 'poor cinema'. It has the lowest budget of any New Zealand feature film made to date, and is undoubtedly the most 'non-commercial' local film to have won general release (next month it will open in Auckland and Wellington). Although David wrote and directed the film, it is in many ways a co-operative effort. The film crew were largely professionals, coming from that same world of commercials they sought to satirise.

Derek Ward and Jennifer Redford, as the young couple, also played a significant part in creating their own visions of suburbia. For Derek, as a founding member of the Living Theatre Troupe, then the Zazou Clowns, The Ratz and The Boys, 'Angel Mine' was more than 'just a movie'. Because, in the consumer society, people see life less literally and more in symbols, film can retain its abstraction and yet gain a mass audience. 'It's a way of using a form against itself.'

There is no doubt that 'Angel Mine' will be a controversial film and because of that all those involved are eager to see the censor's reaction to it. 'He may well be harsher on controversial events -- such as abortion, sex and homosexuality -- in a New Zealand film than he would be, say, with an Italian film', says David. With over \$20,000 of government money invested in the film, cuts or a total ban by another government agency would be tragic.

If, as David claims, New Zealanders are little more than a nation of tele-watchers, complacency should well be rocked by the 'Angel Mine' attack on the media message. And -- to tie it into the events to come in November -- isn't that what sells us our politicians, and our politics?

LOUISE CHUNN

CRACCUM

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FORUM ON ASSESSMENT

All class reps are requested to attend a forum on assessment to be held in the Quad on Thursday September 21 at 1 pm. The aim of the forum is to launch a petition on assessment. All students are urged to take a little time out to listen to the speakers. This time it really is in your interests.

NEW WAVE DANCE

Friday 22 Cafeteria 8 pm with three top NW groups, The Enemy, (Leading new South Island band, just arrived) and your favourites The Scavengers & Sheerlux. Refreshments will be available. Spring's first new wave special, presented by Space-Rock Promotions, yours for \$2.50.

Dear Diary...

O, Dear and Faithful readers, what a wondrous sight have I just been privileged to witness - our versatile EDITOR has just been insinuating her left leg into a gold lame stocking freshly sent by an all-too-well-known admirer (ie too well-known to have his name printed here, if you gather my meaning). Life is certainly full of surprises, as Aunt Mavis is wont to say about Uncle Willy

Inspired by the results of last week's limerick competition, the FROG and I have decided to turn our collective hands and feet to producing an opus of our own. The personages referred to in it are, of course, fictitious although the Frog informs me that he once had a pint with a man who claimed to have a pet seal who was fond of singing PUCCINI in the bath (which is presumably where he spent most of his time). Anyway, here goes

There was a young lady quite famous
For the size and the shape of her anus;
It was shaped like a pear
And, lost up in there
Were two lions, three seals and their trainers.

On the strength of this, it seems worthwhile to devote the rest of the column to printing the text of Hamish McThrobb's improvised 'Ode on the opening of the Kaimai Tunnel'. Mr McThrobb has established a reputation as the foremost vers libre poet in the small Northland hamlet of Taybridge (pop:41) where he now lives; prior to this he was a rubber worker.

See, my brothers,
It is done -
Through the hill, a hole,
Yet more than a mere hole merely:
It is a link, umbilical,
Between the port and hinterland -
A golden route, a path of iron,
Paved in glory, presaging
Peace, prosperity, democracy
For all.
I have known these things before,
I have seen in them the symbol
Of our futurity,
Known in the rushing of the wind before the engine
The impetus toward divinity
In each of us, all of us.
O, my brothers, the tunnel makes a draught
Harnessing the winds of time, eternal.
It is finished; let us go and get pissed.

As the poet Keats reminds us, we are bound to return 'forlorn' from even the most rapturous transports of poetic delight. Here then are the week's events:

MONDAY 18 - ARTHUR FAULKNER speaks on 'Industrial Relations not Confrontation' B10, 1 pm.
TUESDAY 19 - LUNCHTIME - Hear JOHN COYLE talk on 'Peter: was he a militant unionist?' for EU. Not sure where this is supposed to be taking place.
- YOUNG SOCIALISTS, EXEC LOUNGE, 1 pm - 'Unions and the Economic Crisis'.

PHOTO-ART

Photo-Art was organised by New Zealand Student's Arts Council, for its members, (of which there are approximately 41,000) in an effort to stimulate and promote student cultural and artistic endeavours. It was run for the first time this year, but with the tremendous support it has engendered, both from Kodak NZ Ltd., Photo-Forum (Inc), and the campuses and competitors themselves, it will become a yearly event.

The competition, aimed at the amateur photographer, is a means of selecting photographers for a national exhibition. This year ten photographers were selected for the PHOTO-ART exhibition which will tour the country, going to fourteen campuses between late June and early November.

The exhibition will be hung in the Little Theatre from September 18 to 23.

SPORTING CHANCE

Nominations are now open for the position of Sports Officer for 1979. Nomination forms are available from the Reception Desk, ground floor, Studass and close at the SRC Meeting to be held on 27 September 1978 at 1 p.m. in the SRC Lounge. This is your final chance

RESULTS OF ELECTIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE VICE PRESIDENT

John Beavis	193 Declared Elected
Simon Fordham	79
Peter Lee	83
David Rose	118
No Confidence	93
No Vote	5

EDUCATION VICE PRESIDENT

Michel Tyne-Corbould	378 Declared Elected
No Confidence	180
No Vote	13

WEDNESDAY 20 - ALLAN MILLAR, PSA Regional Secretary, speaks on 'Leg Irons on Unions' B10, 1 pm.
NEW INDEPENDENT THEATRE present the opening of RICHARD VON STURMER'S 'The Nine Deaths of Mr Chipden' at Luncheon.

Now a note from POOH SOC and then MAID OF THE MENTHOIDS:
POOH SOCIETY END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATION
As the Vernal Equinox approaches, when the ecliptic crosses the celestial equator in the constellation of Pisces, Day and Night is in equilibrium and the forces of Light and Darkness, Good and Evil battle for supremacy in this insignificant corner of the Universe; it is time for all devotees of World Fantasy & Childrens fiction, Druids & Wombles to gather together for POOH SOCIETY'S 'END OF YEAR CELEBRATION'. You are thus cordially invited to a Special Evening of POOH and piglet, Wine, Munchies and good company at 7 pm on Thursday 21st Sept in the Old Grad Bar (top floor above Uni cafe). Come with a friend if you like. Gate crashers will be zapped into warty toads.

Monday 18 September, 1.00 pm - Old Maid - 'X-rated'. Performance of original music by Matthew Brown on Piano.

September 20 & 21 at 8 pm - Old Maid : Alastair Riddell in concert with his new band. Students \$2.

September 21 at 1 pm in the Exec Lounge - discussion on preparations for Prisoner of Conscience Week (second week of October). Also discussion of 'adopted' Indonesian, East German and Ghanian prisoners.

Thursday September 21 at 1 pm - Little Theatre: 'I want to be Joan' - an important feminist film, documenting the attitudes of six women, who attended the 1977 United Women's Conference, to their lives, children and sex.

23 - 24 September
National Motorsport Weekend
For AUCC's Activities ring Stephen HCK 44- 613

Sunday 24 September, 7.30 pm - Old Maid - University Music Group concert. Included in this immensely successful series is Arpeggioni Sonata by Schubert. Trio in E flat, op 100 by Schubert. Artists appearing include Mary O'Brien - violin; George Pederson - cello; Guest artist Christine Cumming. Tickets \$3.00; Senior Citizens \$2.50; Students \$1.50.

Wednesday 20 September, 6.15 pm; Thursday 21, 8.15 pm; Friday 22, 6.15 & 8.15 pm; Saturday 23, 6.15 & 8.15 pm - Little Theatre - 'KANTAN' A translated Japanese 'Noh' play. A magical play where a young man discovers enlightenment in a dream. An enchanting world of masks, music and symbolic dance. Tickets \$2.00; Students \$1.50.

Friday 22 September 1.00 pm - McLaurin Chapel. Lunchtime concert by the Conservatorium of Music. Music for Viola, Violin, & String Quartet by Bach, Hindemith and Dvorak. Admission free.

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27 - 30 SEPTEMBER

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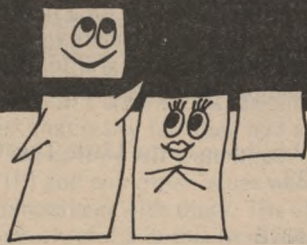
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20 July 1978

NEW ZEALAND SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

Mr Simon Wilson,
Editor 'Salient',
C/- Victoria University of Wellington
Students' Association,
Private Bag,
WELLINGTON.

Dear Mr Wilson,

Thank you for your letter of 16 June 1978 suggesting a possible article as one of a series intended as background to the General Election.

Unfortunately we would be unable to contribute to this series as the Security Intelligence Service has no role that could possibly be related to the General Elections. In fact, if there is anything we don't get mixed up in, it is politics.

Yours faithfully,

P.L. Molineux
P.L. Molineux
Director of Security

A job for you?

The VUWSA Publications Board are calling for nominations for the following positions.

Advertising Manager 1979.

This position involves the soliciting of advertising for Salient. The commission structure is such that an enterprising person can make over \$2000 clear per week. Suitable for a part-time student. Definitely not suitable for a full-time student.

Treasurer of the Publications Board.
Involves keeping the books and reporting to monthly board meetings. Receives \$500 honoraria.

Any enquiries about the above positions should be addressed to Mr Stephens in the Students Assn. office or anyone in Salient.

New calculators New features New low prices

Hewlett-Packard introduces the new-generation Series E range of scientific and engineering hand-held calculators, offering engineers, surveyors, scientists, technicians and students traditional HP quality and innovation at a new low price.

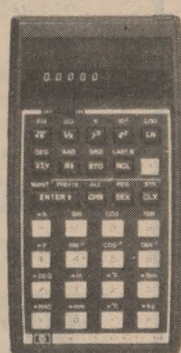
Three new calculators have features that give higher computing power, greater accuracy and easier operation.

New features common to all models are: a larger LED display with commas inserted as appropriate; a foolproof error diagnostic system; improved accuracy for any number of digits; new design.

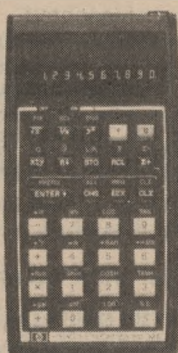
In addition, the Series E calculators have HP's standard extras — low battery warning light, rechargeable batteries, positive-click keys and robust cases.

HP-31E standard scientific model

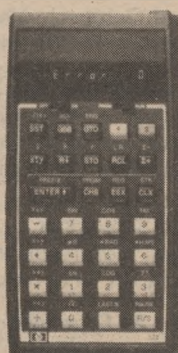
The ideal electronic slide rule with trig, exponential and maths functions. It performs metric conversions and has fixed and scientific display modes with a ten digit display and four separate user memories in addition to the four register working stack.



HP-31E



HP-32E



HP-33E

HP-32E advanced scientific with statistics

More powerful than the HP-31E with more maths and metric capabilities, 15 user memories and hyperbolics. Statistical functions are the most advanced ever offered in an HP calculator.

HP-33E programmable scientific

A scientific, maths and statistical calculator with the added power of programmability. It has 49 program lines of fully merged key codes, editing keys, control keys, a full range of conditional keys and eight user memories. Of particular interest is the calculator's capacity for three levels of subroutines. Series E documentation is modular, allowing the user to build up a library of handbooks and applications books to suit specific requirements.

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TOO LONG TO WAIT

This Tuesday, September 19, marks 95 years since the women of New Zealand gained the right to vote. Women's Suffrage is something which is taken for granted nowadays but in 1878 when the issue of women's suffrage first came to the fore, the fight was a very real, and at times, bitter one.

The women of early New Zealand suffered under the same oppression and hardships as they fled from in England, as did the working class. New Zealand was not the land of hope and glory that it had been made out to be but contained the same old oppressive class structures as England. Both working class and middle class women were placed under individual and collective suppression; both had a great deal to gain from fighting it.

Working women earned as little as 2s for a twelve hour day; girl apprentices were forced to work 12 months without pay in order to learn their trade and then, when they were due to be paid, were sacked; employers would often lower the wages even further whilst they vied with other manufacturers to produce the cheapest goods. No attempts were made to protect the working conditions of women.

In 1889, the Premier of New Zealand said that it would be impossible to provide a minimum wage of 6s a week for women. There were no great principles involved: it was impossible because the demands of capital for cheap and uncomplaining labour were considered more important than those of women for just and adequate living standards. The trade unions did very little to protect the interests of working women.

Middle class women weren't much better off. Although they weren't in such a desperate position financially, they had very few outlets for productive activity apart from housework and childbearing. Those women who attempted to step outside the traditional roles were met with undisguised violence from the male society. At the Otago Medical School male students in the dissecting room threw human flesh at one of the first women medical students in an effort to discourage her.

Marriage and divorce laws were equally res-

trictive to working and middle class women. Divorce was obtainable through an Act of Parliament and consequently was obtainable by only the very rich and powerful. If a husband deserted his wife, he was legally entitled to return periodically and take possession of any property or money that she might have accumulated in his absence. Upon marriage, a woman automatically gave up all rights to her own property.

The Temperance Movement

The Women's Christian Temperance Union was the principle organisation through which women organised to gain the vote. The WCTU saw that much of the suffering that women endured was related to the high level of alcoholism and drunkenness that existed in New Zealand. The sale of liquor was almost completely uncontrolled, and this of course meant that the breweries and liquor retailers were making huge profits out of the misery of men and women.

The liquor lobby was most antagonistic towards the suffrage movement because they realised the threat which women having the vote would pose to them.

Seddon used the liquor lobby extensively to block and destroy measures coming into the house to give women the vote.

In 1878, 1879, 1880 and 1881 the question of women's suffrage was introduced to the house but each time it failed. However the heavy voting in favour of each motion showed the extent to which the women's movement had been able to mobilise support.

Temperance and Suffrage

Kate Sheppard was in charge of organising public pressure for women's suffrage. She campaigned throughout New Zealand using church assemblies, synods, debating societies and the public generally. She organised the WCTU so that each branch had one person responsible for fighting for suffrage. In 1887 Sir Julius Vogel introduced a Female Franchise Bill which passed its second reading by 41 to 22. However Seddon managed to get the bill defeated in the committee stages.

In 1891 a Bill was brought before the House

supported by a petition organised by the WCTU of 10,000 signatures. But the Legislative Council vetoed the Bill. Kate Sheppard went back to work and in 1892 produced a petition with 20,074 signatures. This time the Bill made it through the house and the Legislative Council but Seddon refused to accept it with the amendments made by the Legislative Council.

Kate Sheppard went back to the people and in 1893 yet another petition for women's suffrage was presented, this time with 31,872 signatures. This time at last the Bill was passed. Shortly afterwards a minority of the House petitioned the Governor General not to sign the bill because it would 'seriously embarrass the finances of the colony, thereby injuriously affecting the public credit.'

Kate Sheppard organised a long memorandum to the Governor proving that the matter of women's suffrage had been a long debated subject and that it had the support of the majority of the New Zealand people. New Zealand the first

On September 19, 1893 the Governor signed the bill and the women of New Zealand finally won the vote.

In 1893 New Zealand was the first country to give women the vote and as such one of the most progressive in terms of women's rights. Sadly, very little has been done to

keep this up. In fact, of late, the New Zealand Government has been going to the other extreme with increasingly heavy attacks on women's rights. The 1977 Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Act denies women the right to control their own bodies; cuts have been made in the Domestic Purposes Benefit and the privacy of solo mothers has been violated. Women are amongst the first to be laid off and their right to work is coming under increasing attack. And why? The reasons remain the same. Just as in the late 19th century, women were denied equality because as an inferior sex they provided cheap and uncomplaining labour, women today are being pushed back into the home where they will form a reserve labour force if and when the economy experiences an upturn.

Married women who are laid off do not show up on the unemployment figures. They can be used to replace strikers and to force the wages of other workers down. Isolated in the home, it is difficult for women to organise and join with others in demanding their rights. But, as the women of the late 19th century fought until they won, so will the women of today. The fight for equality will be a long and hard one but it is a just one and as such must win.

Lamorna Rogers



The grenades are under the sink.

THE MAIN ENEMY

INTERNATIONAL FORUM

Are we heading for world war? Is the Soviet Union a harmless workers state, or an aggressive imperialist power hell bent on replacing the United States as Mr Big in the world.

At a forum organised by the Progressive Students Alliance last week, 30 or so students came to listen to two views on these questions. Speaking were David Murray and Mike Treen.

David Murray's speech concerned the nature of imperialism, the present day balance of power in the world, and the part that "detente" plays in the foreign policies of the two superpowers.

He pointed to changes in the international scene that have taken place over the last few years, firstly the struggle of third world nations and other oppressed peoples for national independence and socialism, and at the same time the emergence of superpower (the US and the USSR) contention for world domination. Imperialism, to cut a long story short, he said, is the struggle of monopoly capitalist countries for their "slice"

of the world cake. But in the present world situation there were only two imperialist powers which had the military, economic and political power to contend for world domination.

The Soviet threat

The point that obviously separated the two speakers was that while Murray saw the Soviet Union as an imperialist superpower, no longer a socialist country, Treen defended it saying that "the Soviet Union has no imperialist tendencies..."

This point is the essence of the present world situation; especially when one considers the military balance in Europe with one million Soviet troops on the NATO borders which, Murray claimed, were not there just for defence. He went on to say that strategically speaking, Russia is playing a similar role to that of Nazi Germany in the 30's. Because the Soviet Union wants a redivision of the world's territory in its favour, and because it doesn't yet have enough economic power in the third world, it will be the first to launch a new world war. This war is inevitable

while the two superpowers are allowed to have their way, just as it was in the thirties.

In discussing detente, Murray claimed that it was an integral part of the war preparations by the US and the USSR, a trick as old as the hills and one which we mustn't fall into. The lessening of tensions was a nice idea but totally the opposite of what is really happening in the world.

The main reason that war will not come, said Treen, was that there will be revolutions in second world countries (like France, Germany ie secondary imperialist powers) to avert it. The flaw in this theory is the stage of the development of these revolutions which, to say the least, is not great, as one speaker pointed out from the floor.

Imperialism in the abstract

Mike Treen briefly outlined what he thought imperialism and detente were, the latter he claimed being formulated by Stalin in the 1920's although he chose not to elaborate further. In his long speech, Treen gave scanty treatment to the central problem of the world situation and spent most of his time criticising the People's Republic of China and its foreign policy. He made a point of equating China and the Soviet Union as "bureaucratic workers states"... "there is no more democracy in China than there is in the USSR".

He accused China of betraying the revolution in the third world countries by pointing out that the Chinese leadership had diplomatic relations with some very reactionary regimes. This, he said, was not a revolutionary foreign policy, ignoring the fact that at the same time as China recognised the governments of such countries it gave aid to the liberation movements in those same countries.

When asked what he considered to be a socialist analysis of the world situation, he said that war was on the cards, but that it was likely to come from one of the imperialist countries (France, USA, Belgium even) invading the workers states. Is it possible that Belgium is thinking of invading the USSR? Sounds ridiculous, but Treen did not make any distinction between the relative strengths of the Western imperialists.

And if Belgium was attacked by the Soviet Union? Treen advised them to build nuclear air raid shelters.

To illustrate the differences between the two speakers further, the question of the situation preceding the second world war was brought up. Murray said that the Soviet Union, then a socialist country, successfully allied with Britain and the US to defeat fascist Germany although its aims in doing so were opposed to those of the "allies". Treen said that the Soviet Union should have rejected any united front against Germany and should have advised European workers to create civil war at home in order to take state power. This he said was the best way to defeat fascism.

Lack of dialectics

His comments illustrated the Trotskyite viewpoint of not looking for the main contradiction in any given situation ie not seeing events in their totality. Before World War II it was the global threat of fascism and its drive to war that they missed. Today it is the ever increasing contention between the two superpowers and the rising power and aggressiveness of Soviet imperialism that leads to their strange interpretation of world events. At one stage, Patrick Mulrennan stood up and commended the present rioting in Iran headed by the Muslim Shi-ite movement. The Shi-ite's expressed intention is the restoration of feudalism and they advocate traditional Muslim morality of which locking women up in the home is but one manifestation.

As one of his parting shots, Treen said that the next world war, if it occurred would likely be a nuclear war. Yet this would defeat the purpose for which nuclear wars are fought, the striving after industrial assets and resources. The nuclear weapons held by the two superpowers are used primarily for bullying each other and other countries and would not likely be used in an armed conflict.

The meeting wound up with the battle still raging. The PSA in holding the meeting, proved that contrary to the claims of some student politicians, international issues still interest and concern many students. Despite the limitations of the forum and the monopolisation of the allotted time by one or two speakers, it brought out many points crucial to a proper understanding of the international situation.

Simon Wilson



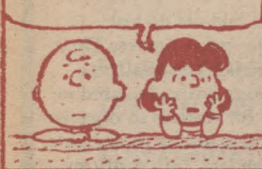
YEARS OF LIGHTNING

our pockets...

The National Party have a new publication out. It's flashy, it's big and bold, and it's the start of the big sell. The name: Years of Lightning.

In this feature we take a brief look at what National claim they are all about. Everything that is typeset comes verbatim from the booklet. The rest is our attempt to help the Party along by extending their logic a little further than they have sometimes been prepared to do themselves.

National's concept of Regional Development...recognised that the only way in which it will work is when it is based on schemes that utilise the regions' natural resources.



What about Clutha?



WELL, THIS WAS DECIDED BEFORE THE PLAN TO SHELVE ALL BUT TWO OF OUR ENERGY SCHEMES WAS ANNOUNCED. CLUTHA IS ONE OF THESE TWO. IT'S SUPPOSED TO BENEFIT EVERYONE IN THE COUNTRY EXCEPT THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE AREA.

BUT WE CAN'T EXPECT NATIONAL TO HAVE KNOWN ABOUT THAT MORE THAN 2 WEEKS AGO!

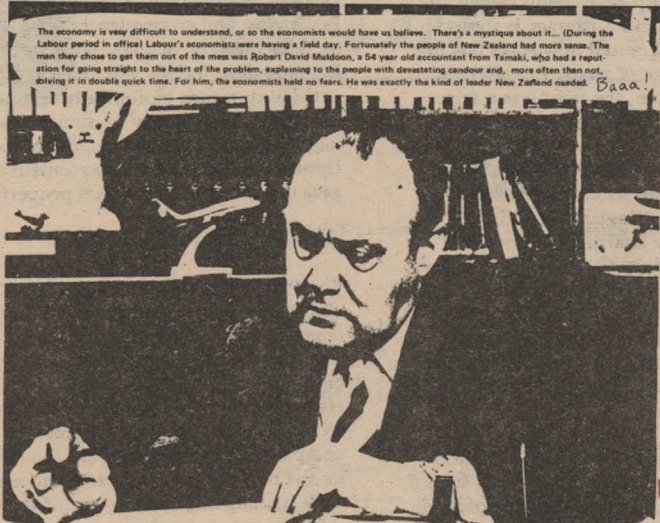


THE LANGUID LAND IS NO MORE

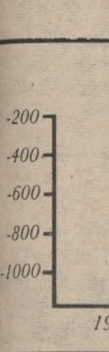


HAVE YOU READ 'YEARS OF LIGHTNING'?

TELL ME I BELIEVE EVERYTHING I READ IN 'NAT. MAGAZINE'...



I certainly appreciate his ability to express things clearly. For example, slanting a horizontal line.



The only way to get a greater share of our resources was to offer to export more new export designated Zealand.

IT'S A GIFT FROM THE BOSSES

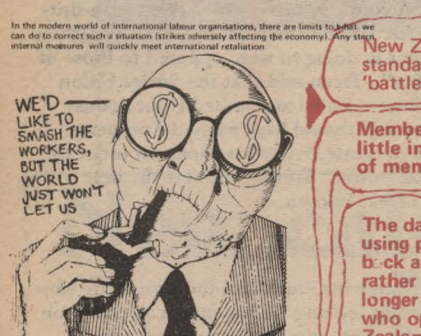


WE ABOLISHED LABOUR'S SUPERANNUATION SCHEME. HAD IT STILL BEEN IN OPERATION, EVERYBODY WOULD BE LOSING 3% OF THEIR WAGES INTO IT... UNDER THE NEW NATIONAL SUPERANNUATION SCHEME, YOU PAY NOTHING!



New Zealand is fortunate indeed to have Brian Talboys. A huge, handsome man and devastating debater, the Deputy Prime Minister gives New Zealand a stature in world trade forums which is far greater than a country of 3 million really deserves.

Meanwhile, Brian Talboys has campaigned tirelessly against the Common Markets plans to restrict access of our sheepmeats in Europe.



WE'D LIKE TO SMASH THE WORKERS, BUT THE WORLD JUST WON'T LET US

New Zealand unions are not sophisticated by world standards; many still see industrial relations as the 'battle with the bosses'.

Membership is compulsory; which gives the executive little incentive to worry about the individual concerns of members.

The days when we could tolerate the trade unions using powers granted to them by society, to strike back at that society, not for industrial reasons, but rather political ones, have gone forever. We can no longer allow militant action by unions led by men who openly advocate the destruction of our New Zealand way of life.

Offshore the National Government, in conjunction with overseas companies, has spent many, many millions drilling. The Government has also launched its own on-shore drilling programme. As yet we have not discovered oil in commercial quantities, but it is important the Government perseveres as the indications are nevertheless encouraging.

PEOPLE WORRIED ABOUT THE ECONOMIC THREAT FROM OVERSEAS COMPANIES WILL BE AWARE THAT THEY COME FROM FRIENDLY COUNTRIES, AND ARE THUS NOT AT ALL LIKELY TO EXPLOIT US IN THE WAY THEY DO EVERY OTHER COUNTRY THEY TAKE AN INTEREST IN. AND ANY SUGGESTION THAT GEORGE SAIR HAS BEEN RUNNING ROUND CLUTCHING AT STRAWS IS PLAINLY IRRESPONSIBLE. NATIONAL ARE SPENDING \$60m. ON ENERGY EXPLORATION. WITH THAT AMOUNT OF MONEY, THEY MUST BE SPENDING IT WELL.



WE TRIED TO DRAG THE JAPANESE KICKING AND SCREAMING INTO THE 20th CENTURY - THROUGH TOURISM AND RESTRICTIONS ON POLYNESIAN MIGRANT LABOUR. WE SECURED OUR ROLE AS A SOUTH PACIFIC POWER. WE SIGNED THE GLENAGELES AGREEMENT. WE CAN'T BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OLYMPIC BOYCOTT. WE ARE TAKING OUR PLACE: IT'S UP TO OTHER COUNTRIES TO TAKE THEIRS. WE CALL A SPADE A SPADE AND A PEANUT FARMER A PEANUT FARMER.

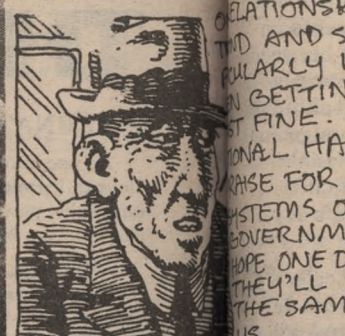


Some NZers feared we were forgetting our place. In fact, we were taking our place for the first time.

THEY ARE GOING TO SHOW US HOW TO TAKE ALL THE FISH OUT OF THE WATER - SOMETHING WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO FOR YEARS BY OURSELVES

In today's world, international trade is often as much a matter of politics as it is of marketing. Particularly important has been the increase in trade with Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union (now our fifth best customer).

Closer to home, we have improved our relations with our neighbours through our involvement in A... WE'VE STRENGTHENED THE FENCE... WHICH MUSTN'T BE FORGOTTEN WITH OF SOVIET TRADE REMEMBER VITAL MACHINERY IN GERMANY DIDN'T MAKE THEM LESS AT WE'VE AGREED UNDISPUTEDLY IN DEMOCRATIC RIGHTLINE IN THE

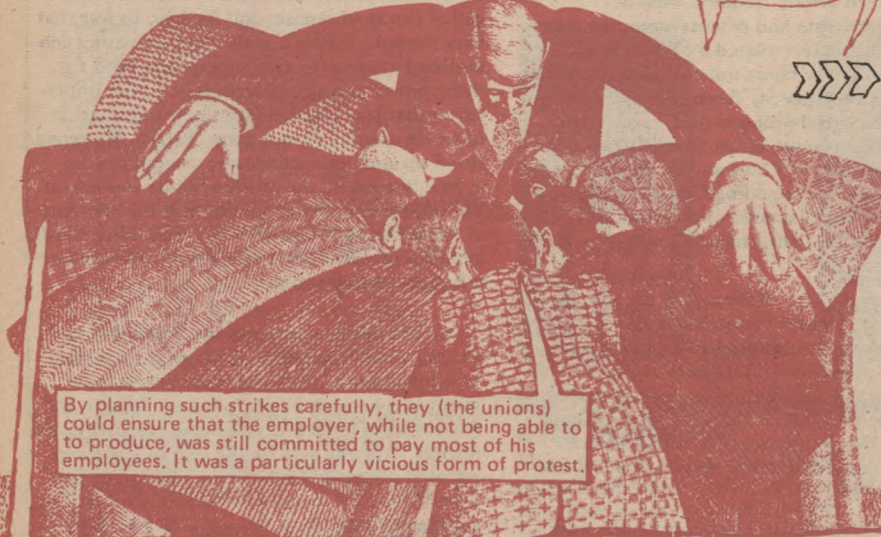


YOU BET

The last few years have seen a new awareness of Maoridom. The Maori, who has a significant role in the country, will never begin to understand.



We deregistered the Wellington Boilermakers over the BNZ building fiasco; we stood up to the Auckland Storemen/Packers and their communist secretary; we ordered a successful compulsory conference to stop the Auckland Bakers' dispute; we diffused the dire threat of the Auckland Auckland Trades Council over the Pintado visit; we took a very hard line over the Sunday train dispute (even threatening to call out the armed forces); we dismissed 130 South Auckland Timber Workers over the communist inspired Waipa Mill dispute; in every case the strikes were broken.



By planning such strikes carefully, they (the unions) could ensure that the employer, while not being able to produce, was still committed to pay most of his employees. It was a particularly vicious form of protest.

WHAT DOES AN EMPLOYER PRODUCE? THE WORKERS DO THE ACTUAL PRODUCTIVE WORK, BUT THE EMPLOYER? JUST BECAUSE HE PAYS THE WAGES...

By redefining the term strike we gave the employers the right to suspend non-strike workers who were nevertheless idle because of the dispute.



Peter Gordon, former transport operator and farmer from Clutha, moved into the industrial hot seat. Among the many qualities he brought to the post, the most important were his easy smile and blatant honesty.



ONLY DON'T BLAME US WHEN THINGS GO WRONG; AND DON'T GO ASKING SMART QUESTIONS ABOUT WHO'S RUNNING GOVT.

Some people believe that National has been too soft on the Unions; while some union leaders have claimed that New Zealand now has the toughest industrial laws in the Western World. We would reject both propositions and claim only that today it is once again the Government - not the unions - that are running the country.

THAT'S NOT CENTS, IT'S PERCENT!

READ IT FOR YOURSELF!

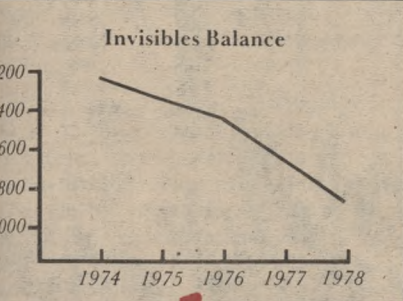
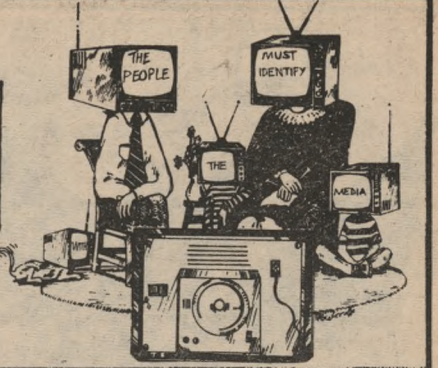
TELL ME BELIEVE EVERYTHING READ IN 'NAT. AGANDA'...

MAYBE NOT... BUT FACTS ARE FACTS, BUDDY... YOU DON'T DISPUTE FACTS!

READ IT FOR YOURSELF!

THE LINGUISTIC LAND IS NO MORE!

What we have is a broadcasting service that puts the interest of the public above all else... The country had put its total trust in the hands of the broadcasters and there was mounting evidence to suggest this trust was somewhat less than justified.



WE SOLD GLASS SAMURAI SWORDS TO JAPAN AND FRUIT CAKES (WITH AUSTRALIAN RAISINS) TO DUBAI!

OF COURSE, THE RESOURCE WE HAVE EXPORTED THE BEST IS PEOPLE. THESE EXPORTS HAVE BEEN OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY, ESPECIALLY IN OUR SKILLED WORKED AND PROFESSIONAL RANGE OF PRODUCTS. WE HAVE SIMULTANEOUSLY MANAGED TO REDUCE IMPORTS OF THE MUCH INFERIOR PACIFIC ISLAND PRODUCTS HAVING ALREADY SENT BACK SEVERAL CONSIGNMENTS OF REJECTS

BY LATE 1978 THE ACCOUNTANT FROM TAMAKI WAS ABLE TO PAY HIMSELF \$45,000



The only... a greater share... of our resources... were... tries... Major... offered to... 1978 was... new export... designated... Zealand.



It can be argued that NZ's fishing potential could equal that of agriculture.

AND WE MUSTN'T FORGET THAT FISHING MUST BE CO-ORDINATED WITH FARMING. THAT'S WHY WE HAVE APPOINTED A BEEF BREEDER AS MINISTER.

WHICH IS WHY WE'VE ANTED THE SOVIETS, S. KOREANS AND JAPANESE IN - SO THEY CAN TEST THE WATERS (SORELY). NATIONAL WILL OVERSEE FISHING GROWTH JUST AS MUCH AS OUR SEA ADVISORS SAY.

WE COULD DEVELOP A HEREFORD-TUNA CROSS!



to home, we have... improved our relationships with our South East Asian... through our involvement in ASEAN.

WE STRENGTHENED... AGREEMENTS AGAINST THE REDS... MUSTN'T BE... WITH THE TOTALLY DIFFERENT MATTER... VIET TRADE... REMEMBER THAT GENERAL MOTORS EXPORTED... GERMANY EVEN WHILE THE WAR WAS ON. IT... MACHINERY... LESS AMERICAN).

WE AGREED... INDONESIA NOT TO GIVE ITS OPPONENTS BASIC... IN THIS COUNTRY.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH... AND SINGAPORE... PARTICULARLY HAVE... GETTING ON... FINE.

NATIONAL HAS ONLY... FOR THEIR... SYSTEMS OF... GOVERNMENT. WE... HOPE ONE DAY SOON... THEY'LL BE SAYING... THE SAME ABOUT... US.



The last few... have seen a... awareness of... Maoridom... the Maori... has a significant... that most Pake... will never begin... understand.

also the vexing question of just who deserves to... social security benefits... a committee set up to... the phenomenon (of the growing cost of the DPB)... that it was actually providing an incentive... breakdown of marriages. Today the numbers... the benefit has been slowed down...



IT WAS QUITE SIMPLE REALLY. PEOPLE WHO EITHER DON'T GET MARRIED, OR WHO LEAVE A MARRIAGE, CLEARLY DON'T WANT TO INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN A RESPONSIBLE RELATIONSHIP WITH ANOTHER ADULT. SO WE DECIDED WE WEREN'T GOING TO PAY THEM TO BE MARRIED.

two important qualities needed to make it work... extraordinary strength of his convictions.

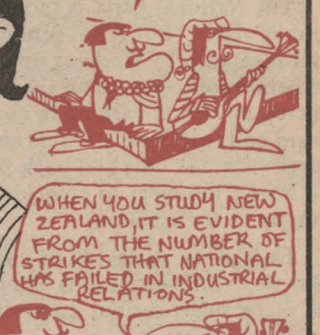
The task went to Frank Gill; a man with the an outstanding administrative ability and an

Given the choice between buying a new or an existing home, the great majority choose to buy an existing home. We already have about one million houses... a substantial number were lying empty at the time of the change of Government.

All those empty flats in Aro Sts for example.



When you study industrial relations in NZ, the thing that cannot fail to strike you, is the nation's vulnerability.



WOMEN PROTECTING WOMEN

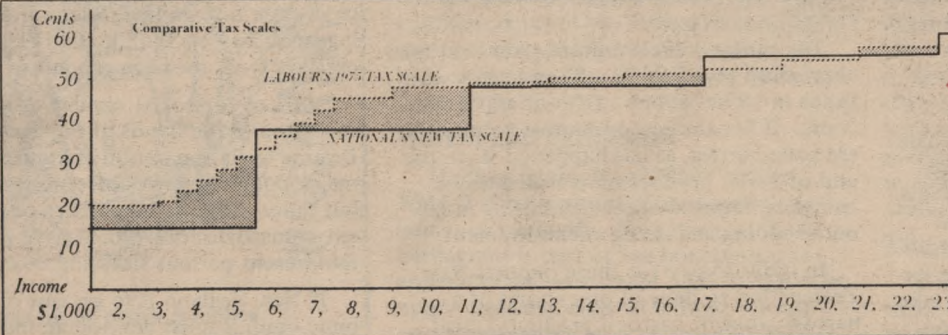
In April 1977 the final stage of the move towards equal pay... was taken. We have also established a committee to see that equal pay is a reality.



WOMEN'S PAY IS LESS EQUAL NOW THAN IT EVER WAS. FOR IT TO BECOME A REALITY WOMEN MUST HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO ALL SECTORS OF THE WORK FORCE. IS NATIONAL GOING TO DO THAT?



THAT'S NOT CENTS, IT'S PERCENT!





IT'S NOT VOTING THAT'S IMPORTANT

WELLINGTON MARXIST - LENINIST ORGANISATION

This article appears in our series of contributions from political groups and individuals.

If past form is any guide, about 85 percent of eligible voters will take part in the general election later this year. The chase for their votes has already begun with the burgeoning total of promises, bribes, slogans and charges and counter-charges flung about by the major political parties. Each accuses the others of being responsible for New Zealand's problems. We are told that Labour is "fighting for us" and that we should "give Social Credit a go". The Labour Party has made its grab for office by promising tax cuts, greater employment and parliamentary reform.

The National Party is relying on its record in office. But it has prudently taken out insurance by stepping up government expenditure to stimulate the economy, by increasing union bashing to appeal to backward and reactionary voters and by timing wage rises, tax cuts and back pay payments to state employees to coincide with the run-up to the election.

Each party is playing its usual role. But this year's election is being staged in an increasingly serious domestic and international situation.

Trend to Fascism

Within New Zealand there is a fascist-like current which has its principal source in the economic crisis. Since mid-1974 New Zealand has been locked into a protracted economic crisis. To meet the crisis the monopoly capitalist class which controls New Zealand has mounted a sustained offensive against the living standards and traditional democratic rights of working people. Begun by the Third Labour Government, the offensive has intensified under the Muldoon Government.

The economic crisis is the source of the fascist-like current, rather than alleged personality defects in past or present prime ministers. While periodic economic crises are inherent in the capitalist system, New Zealand's present crisis is deepened by its dependence on the major capitalist countries, on foreign imperialism.

The main elements of the economic crisis are a huge balance of payments deficit, a sharp decline in the terms of trade, faltering real profit rates, surging inflation, a stagnating economy and rising unemployment. Official unemployment, already at a level unseen since the 1930's, has been kept down through non-registration of unemployed married women, non-engagement of temporary migrant labour from the South Pacific, early retirements and a massive outflow of skilled workers from New Zealand.

Both the Third Labour Government and the National Government have attempted to cut the balance of payments deficit, cut the rate of inflation and boost real profit rates by a mix of policies designed to lower internal demand for consumer goods. The incomes of the working class and lower middle class were hit through wage restraint, increased prices for government services, removal of subsidies on essential commodities, a raised tax haul and a tight credit policy which pushed up interest rates and limited consumer credit.

The fall in real incomes accelerated the downturn in the economy. In the last year of the Labour Government real wages fell by about 5%, while real disposable income per capita fell almost 7%. The fall in real wages and real disposable income per capita has not been as rapid under the National Government - partly as a result of greater working class struggle.

A brief shot in the arm

With the elections coming up, the National Government has temporarily relaxed its economic restraints. A huge budget deficit has been run and the real disposable income of working people has been increased through tax cuts and wage increases. As a result, there will be a short-lived consumption-led recovery in the economy. Demand for consumer goods will increase, requiring increased production and increased demand for imports.

The balance of payments deficit will widen again, forcing next year's government, whether National or Labour, to put the brakes on again. Unemployment levels are unlikely to come down. Employers will probably meet the increased consumer demand by increasing overtime and raising productivity rather than by increasing employment.

Fascist current in New Zealand

The reactionary economic policies have been implemented paralled with a reactionary political programme designed to limit resistance by working people. It has included extreme restrictions in law on working class action, attacks on Polynesians, extension of the spying powers of the secret police, attacks on women's rights and attacks on individuals. The Labour Government carried out the notorious "dawn raid", raided the Aotea Clinic and jailed a prominent trade unionist.

The National Government has made all strikes virtually illegal, introduced legislation which enable reactionary individuals to interfere in the affairs of unions and organisations like students' associations, and introducing heavy fines which may be imposed on unions and unionists who take action in defence of their wages and conditions.

State power has been strengthened by developing cooperation between the police and the armed forces. The "Back to Basics" movement has been whipped up to attack liberal thinking in the schools. Individuals like Trevor Richards have been attacked as "traitors" in an attempt to shut them up. DPB beneficiaries have been spied upon. . . . The list could be extended almost indefinitely. All these events are part of a fascist-like current running in New Zealand society.

What is significant about the present crisis is that it has deepened even though there has been a weak recovery overseas. The reason lies in the dependent nature of the New Zealand economy.

Just a big farm

Ever since it was colonised New Zealand has been developed to serve the needs of others. New Zealand was converted into a country which produces cheap pastoral products for markets in the major capitalist countries in the northern hemisphere - first Britain and later West Europe, Japan and North America. This initial distortion has been accentuated by the pseudo-industrialisation of New Zealand in the last 40 years.

Instead of developing the heavy industry based on national resources essential for economic independence the New Zealand bourgeoisie, through its political parties (National and Labour), has opted for dependent industrialisation. Often financed by foreign capital, an array of consumer goods and light manufacturing industries concentrate on assembling foreign-made components or assembling goods under licence (cars, TVs, washing machines, refrigerators) or processing primary products for export (meat freezing, cheese, butter, pulp and paper). Technology is almost entirely imported.

These kind of industries are essential. But without a heavy industrial base, expansion of light manufacturing has increased, and will continue to increase, the demand for imports of raw materials, chemicals, capital goods and transport equipment from the industrialised and oil producing countries. The import content of some manufactured products is as high as 50%.

The motor vehicle industry, for example, chewed up about \$650 million in overseas funds in 1976 - about a fifth of export income. If for any reason import volumes are scaled down, as has happened since the end of 1974, production is scaled down and some factories closed, resulting in labour shedding and rising unemployment.

In order to pay for these imports New Zealand has to depend on exports of a narrow range of pastoral products (meat, wool and dairy products), supplemented

in recent years by timber and manufactured goods. New Zealand's trade is dominated by the major capitalist countries. Being a partner whose trade is marginal for these countries, New Zealand is forced to accept the prices dictated by them for both exports and imports.

Foreign control

New Zealand has to pay out a flood of money to the major capitalist countries whose monopoly capitalists control much of New Zealand's national economy, particularly, manufacturing, banking, insurance and property. More than one-third of commerce and industry is directly controlled by the foreign transnationals which siphon off huge profits.

The policy of overseas borrowing by both the Labour and National Governments means now about 5% of export income is tied up in servicing interest payments on official overseas debt. Transport between New Zealand and overseas markets is largely controlled by foreign owned shipping companies. As a result of this foreign control, New Zealand's deficit on invisible payments is rocketing. This deficit is tangible evidence of New Zealand's dependence on foreign imperialism.

The crux of dependent New Zealand's problems is the balance of payments deficit. Without fixing it New Zealand will not be able to afford the rising levels of imports necessary for industrial growth. If the balance of payments remains heavily in deficit, stagnation, historically high levels of inflation and unemployment, falling living standards and a net outflow of migrants from New Zealand will persist. The claims made by the Muldoon Government about an improvement in the balance of payments deliberately ignore the depressed state of the economy.

Restructuring: how should it work?

How can the crisis be overcome? The New Zealand bourgeoisie looks to exports and "restructuring" of the economy for the solution. It wants to divert resources from personal consumption to export-orientated industries. It intends doing this by cutting back on welfare spending, hitting the workers' pockets through expenditure taxes, opening New Zealand to large-scale foreign investment and exposing small and medium industries to competition from overseas products.

More of the social capital will be concentrated in the hands of big business. Despite their apparent differences, both major political parties offer nothing but more of the same policies of dependent industrialisation which have produced the present parlous situation.

If New Zealand is to get out of its economic bind, it must develop an independent economy based on heavy industry

utilising New Zealand's natural resources. Without developing a heavy machine building industry, for example, the balance of payments can only be improved by reducing imports of goods and services.

The New Zealand economy. It will not be necessary to mobilise natural resources to develop a new economy.

Ultimately, the state is forced to take over the means of production and distribution, to nationalise the exchange and to construct an independent socialist economy. The people rather than the businessmen will control the economy.

In the meantime, the economy is being attracted to the fascist system, irrespective of the results of the general election. The government will struggle to maintain the status quo and the democratic system of the monarchy.

The centre of the economy is the monarchy.

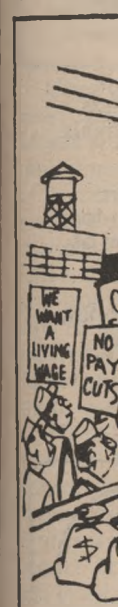
The other major factor in the situation is the content of the Union and the daily. Like the century, the situation is the same.

The search for a solution, the influence, the negotiation, the belligerence, the exorable but (particularly) and the growth into the US are symptoms of a similar economic and social situation.

The Soviet offensive, the defensive action, the German, the main source of the Nazi economic power, it was the power in the war in the

The Soviet

Soviet push into the national Government of New Zealand, allowing Soviet mile zone. of Soviet but Soviet capital and threaten



"All the

utilising New Zealand's natural resources. Without developing New Zealand's own machine building and transport industries, for example, it will be impossible to attack the balance of payments deficit properly by reducing reliance on imports of capital goods and foreign transport.

The New Zealand bourgeoisie will not develop this independent and self-reliant economy. It profits from dependence. It will not face up to the upheavals necessary to mobilise the capital, technology and natural resources essential for the genuine reconstruction of the New Zealand economy.

Ultimately the working people will be forced to take things into their own hands, seize state power from the bourgeoisie, nationalise the means of production and exchange and use their own state power to mobilise the resources necessary to construct an independent, self-reliant and socialist economy. Production will be carried out on the basis of use by working people rather than for profit for a few big businessmen.

In the meantime the basis of the protracted economic crisis and its reflection in the fascist-like current will remain, irrespective of which party wins the general election. Which ever party forms the government after the election, working people will still be faced with an arduous struggle to defend their living standards and democratic rights against the attacks of the monopoly capitalists.

The central question of world politics

The other main problem facing New Zealanders is the worsening international situation. Despite all the talk of "detente" the contention for world supremacy between the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, is sharpening daily. Like all great power rivalries in this century, Soviet-US rivalry must end in war.

The accelerating arms race, the feverish search for strategic areas and spheres of influence, the quickening diplomatic struggle for allies and neutrals, the innumerable negotiations and treaties signed between the belligerents, the talk of "detente" which masks the war preparations, the inexorable buildup of Soviet military power (particularly in Europe), the proxy wars, and the growing thrust of the Soviet Union into the US sphere of influence - all these are symptoms of the approaching war, just as similar events foreshadowed the first and second world wars.

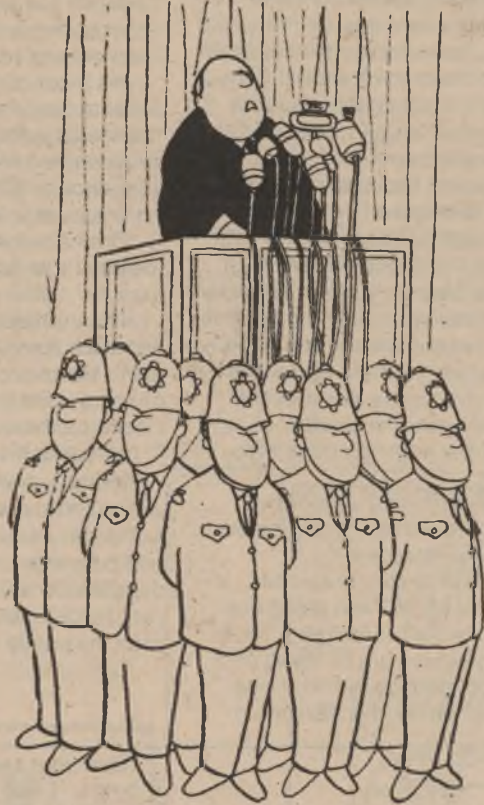
The Soviet Union is on the strategic offensive, while US imperialism is on the defensive and in a strategically passive position. The historic role is like that of Nazi Germany. The Soviet Union has become the main source of a new world war. Although Nazi Germany was not as strong economically as the Anglo-French-US bloc it was the most aggressive imperialist power in the world and the main source of war in the 30's.

The Soviet Union in New Zealand

Soviet social-imperialism is trying to push into New Zealand. Already the National Government has auctioned off part of New Zealand's natural resources by allowing Soviet fishing fleets into the 200 mile zone. It has allowed the importation of Soviet builtup cars and tractors, giving Soviet capital a foothold in New Zealand and threatening the livelihood of carwork-

ers. The Soviet Union has offered New Zealand a joint-venture in fishing and access to its oceanic research. It has used its local agents to set up branches of the World Peace Council, a tool of Soviet foreign policy used to cover Soviet aggression.

The central question of world politics today has become the contention for world domination between the two superpowers, the menace they pose to the world's peoples and the latter's resistance to them. The growing rivalry between the two superpowers is the most important threat to New Zealand's national independence and state sovereignty. It is drawing New Zealand into superpower war preparations. While struggling against domestic monopoly capital and other reactionary forces who betray New Zealand's national interests, working people must also oppose the two superpowers. Working people must endeavour to push out US imperialism and keep out Soviet imperialism.



The key immediate problem

For the Wellington Marxist-Leninist Organisation (WMLO) the key immediate problems are the economic crisis and the growing war danger. The combination of protracted economic crisis, dependency on foreign imperialism and mounting attacks on living standards and democratic rights carries the seeds of fascism. Even the Associate Minister of Finance, Mr H Templeton, has raised the possibility that New Zealand may take the "Latin America road", i.e. the road of Uruguay and Argentina, the road to fascism. The intensifying rivalry between the two superpowers is driving the world forward to war. WMLO's attitude to the general elections hinges on these key immediate problems and basic Marxist-Leninist theory.

During the coming election we will use our limited resources to carry out propaganda and agitation about the key immediate problems as we see them, raise the socialist solution to New Zealand's problems and try to build our organisation. We believe that if the working class is to carry out the socialist revolution successfully it must have the leadership of a genuine Marxist-Leninist party - that is the experience of all such revolutions.

But no such party exists in New Zealand today. The Socialist Unity Party, the Communist Party and the Socialist Action League in their various ways belong to the anti-Marxist and anti-working class forces in New Zealand. WMLO is part of the growing movement in New Zealand for a unified Marxist-Leninist party. We will be trying to develop our influence and organisation during the election campaign to help in the creation of a genuine Marxist-Leninist party.

WMLO and Parliament

Unlike certain of our "left" critics, WMLO is not opposed in general to parliamentary activity. We recognise that Parliament is part of the bourgeois state apparatus, an instrument used by the monopoly capitalist class to enforce its rule over the working class and middle classes.

Parliament is used to dupe the people into believing that they exert genuine influence over the system of political power.

But an (extremely) important feature of the New Zealand state is its real isolation from any genuine and practical popular control. The people's role is to elect, when called upon, the bourgeois party of its choice to the House of Representatives. There is no genuine mass control over Parliament or parliamentary parties. Events in the Island Bay electorate earlier this year show this clearly.

The Governor General, the Ministers of the Crown, the armed forces, the police and the judiciary are not accessible to the people in any real way. This is particularly clear in the case of the main components of state power - the armed forces and the police. In the total system of political power on New Zealand, the House of Representatives plays a relatively minor role, being little more than a talking shop. The reforms proposed by the Labour Party, for all their promises to make Parliament "more relevant" (to use Rowling's trendy phrase), make no fundamental change in Parliament's role. Nor could they. For the Labour Party is a thoroughly bourgeois party serving monopoly capital, composed though it might be in part by working people.

We believe that as long as the bourgeoisie exercises state power and calls on the masses to take part in parliamentary elections; as long as an appreciable number of the working people respond to this call and retain confidence in the bourgeois democratic instruments (such as Parliament) which are used to dupe them; as long as Parliament draws all classes into its activities - it is essential for Marxist-Leninists to expose the bourgeois deception from the parliamentary platform. We are not taking part in this year's elections because our small forces can be used more effectively in extra-parliamentary activity.

Contrary to what some of our enemies and some of our friends may say, WMLO does not call for a return of a National Government, whether by a small or a large majority. Nor do we call for a return of a Labour Government. We believe that it is largely irrelevant which of the two major parties is elected in November since their policies are in reality, if not in the imaginations of Labour supporters, the same on all significant issues.

The Labour Party

If a Labour victory would genuinely disorganise the fascist-like current in New Zealand, we would not hesitate to call for a return of a Labour Government, even though our influence on the election will be minuscule. There is no possibility of smashing the bourgeois state by proletarian revolution in New Zealand today. The objective conditions for the fascist-like current remain.

In such a situation if there is a fascist danger, and if the victory of a given bourgeois party would disorganise the fascists, a communist must vote for that bourgeois party. Despite the protestations of the Labour Party leaders, the present government's economic policies are the direct descendants of the Third Labour Government's. There is no reason to believe that a Labour Government would disorganise the fascist-like current. Hence we do not call for a return of a Labour Government.

Again contrary to what some of our enemies and friends may say, we do not advocate a return of a National Government because a National victory would allegedly promote the class struggle. This is a lie spread by, amongst others, certain elements connected with the SUP, one of whom at least has been an exponent of this excitant theory in the past. We think that this theory is political childishness somewhat akin to terrorism.

The Russian terrorists advocated individual assassination as a means of "exciting" the working class movement and giving it a "strong impetus". Lenin pointed out that there were enough outrages in Russia without special excitants having to be invented. And there are enough outrages in New Zealand without using a National Government as a special excitant.

The working class role

Ever since the Third Labour Government initiated the assault on the living standards and democratic rights, struggle



between the working class and the monopoly capitalist class has been expanding. In recent years more workers and more unions have been involved in more strikes than ever before. The working class has carried out economic and political strikes. There have been the Truxtun dispute, the Kawerau dispute and the freezing workers' dispute earlier this year which resulted in defeats for the government. Last year, the working class spearheaded the attack against the SIS Amendment Act.

The development of the class struggle does not require special excitants, but the unity of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought with the working class movement. It requires a genuine Marxist-Leninist party which can lead the working class in struggle against the monopoly capitalists and their agents in the working class movement. If it were not for the sabotage of the right-wing top leaders in the FOL and the SUP, for example, the government would have had a tough fight on its hands when it brought in the 1976 amendments to the Industrial Relations Act and the Commerce Act.

The need to organise

In conclusion WMLO believes that what's important is not voting but organising outside the parliamentary process. We think that activities during the election campaign should aim at airing the pressing problems of the people, so that they may more effectively organise themselves to fight the monopoly capitalists on the basis of their united strength. Revolutionary and progressive people should strive to turn election meetings into people's forums by raising pointed questions, making speeches, distributing literature, organising pickets and demonstrations and so on.

The fight back against the monopoly capitalists, foreign imperialism and the superpowers should centre on the danger of fascism and war and be based on a programme which in part should include:

- tax cuts for lower and middle incomes
- restoration of subsidies on essential commodities
- a freeze on charges for government services
- repeal of anti-trade union and anti-women legislation
- direct bargaining between employers and employees and no compulsory arbitration
- an end to the attacks on traditional democratic rights and national minorities
- a living wage for the unemployed, old age pensioners, and social welfare beneficiaries.
- nationalisation of foreign monopolies
- an end to the sell-out of natural resources to foreign capital
- bilateral and mutually beneficial trading arrangements with the third world
- support for the new international economic order
- an independent and non-aligned foreign policy for New Zealand
- a nuclear weapon-free, peace zone in the South Pacific
- opposition to Soviet expansionism
- support the national liberation, independence and revolutionary struggles of the peoples of the world.



Not the editorial

The vast hinterland which services the buzzing metropolis of Massey University has this year quite a significant number of marginal seats.

"Oh, no" says Cardinal Fang, "Not the MARGINAL SEATS!"

"Yes" sneers Biggles, "so you'd better start talking or we'll poke you with the OPINION POLLS!"

Now Massey is a campus with an extremely well-integrated multi-cultural student population, with large numbers of students drawn from such distant electorates as Napier, Hastings and Hawkes Bay (a large contingent), there are a number of students from the Taupo area and another large contingent hails from Wanganui.

By my reckoning we have as marginal seats Palmerston North, Wanganui, Rangitikei, Hastings and Napier. Students if registered in their home electorates may have some effect on these seats but their numbers will be small. There is also the fact that students will probably not vote in blocks even if MUSA suggests that they do.

There has been an electoral drive on campus to get students to enrol in the Palmerston North electorate, presumably to give weight to our bursaries campaigns. But once again, MUSA is unlikely to tell students how to vote, and if it did the students would probably not follow the recommendations.

Election '78 is perhaps the most widely discussed election that has occurred for some time. Conditions have gotten steadily worse and very few people would deny that we are in a crisis of some sort.

There have been a number of political books published lately, that have given the general voting public a greater insight into the personalities of the leaders, the political parties, and the Parliamentary system in general.

Values and Social Credit have become significant parties, and Socialist Action is putting up six candidates.

All this suggests that interest is high and that the country is seriously looking for solutions to the many problems it faces.

While the rise of smaller parties can only be a good thing (and many people are talking enthusiastically about coalitions) there are a number of disturbing and confusing trends arising. These are the tendencies for smaller parties to support one of the major parties, and also the rise of sophisticated pressure group tactics.

For instance -

Values leader, Tony Kunowski, while not supporting National, has said that he would rather see National in power in '79 than Labour.

The Socialist Action League, is encouraging its supporters to vote for Labour in electorates where there is no SAL candidate. They do this on the grounds that even though the Labour Party is not really a workers party any more, it is still seen in this light by many workers.

Social Credit, of particularly inscrutable political philosophy seems even more National than the National Party.

Then there are the Anarchists, urging people to vote for Nobody (because Nobody cares) which I believe is a very dangerous tactic. Many people could take this advice and we'd be left with National again, because the party members will not be giving up their votes.

And of course, there is Gieringer's single issue Abortion vote tactics. However before discussing this we must remember that Gieringer's tactics have only been developed because of very strong single issue campaigning by the SPUC lobby. I know Gieringer has said people will put down his tactics because they subvert democracy and so on. I don't make those claims I simply quail and quake when I think of the Palmerston North Electorate.

If people feel strongly about the abortion issue then this must be a valid way to vote.

All these different trends are confusing and if anything points to the fact that people are seeing the injustices that can be perpetrated by democracies.

Let's look at the Palmerston North electorate. Mr. Lithgow (National) has a majority of 142 and should be trying hard, but not perhaps in the right direction. Mr. Lithgow has said that the unemployed are bludgers and that there is plenty of work in Palmerston North if one wants it. Add to this, his address earlier this year to an

audience very interested in promoting Maori tanga, in which he implied that Maori would never become an important language to New Zealanders because it would never be used for trade. Add to this his support of the SIS amendment and his evasive attitude to students and bursaries, and there's the proposition.

Only on the Abortion issue is he at all 'in touch', or liberal. He supports a woman's right to choose, and his voting record on this issue is good.

But is that enough? He does not have much time for bursaries, unemployment, East Timor and civil liberties generally.

Mr. Walding has had a few kind words to say about students. His record on Civil Liberties is not outstanding, although he does seem to care about industrial relations and working conditions.

He is concerned about unemployment and has professed a desire to see students about bursaries (when he found out we had 800 students enrolled in the electorate).

However he can not shake off the shadows of his past allegiance to SPUC, and there is no doubt that his attitude on this issue is less liberal than Lithgow's.

Peter Edmunds for Social Credit. Well, please excuse me but I just don't think this possibility is worth discussing.

Then of course there is George Serralach for Values. Serralach has good opinions on bursaries, SIS, unemployment, abortion, civil liberties and is an expert in the field of energy. He is also backed up by very good policy. (Towards the end of the term we will publish the policies in more specific detail).

The above analysis exposes my biases of course. I don't consider that in Palmerston North single issue voting will do any good for the country as a whole. As has been said before in a letter to Chaff, people must throw off the political allegiances of their parents and friends and vote for the candidate they believe is best. The candidate with the policy that best suits their desires.

NOT THE EDITOR.

POLITICS IN NEW ZEALAND

Stephen Levine.

This is an excellent anthology about the political institutions (national and local) the parties, one or two of the key figures, and some of the issues in New Zealand, in 1978.

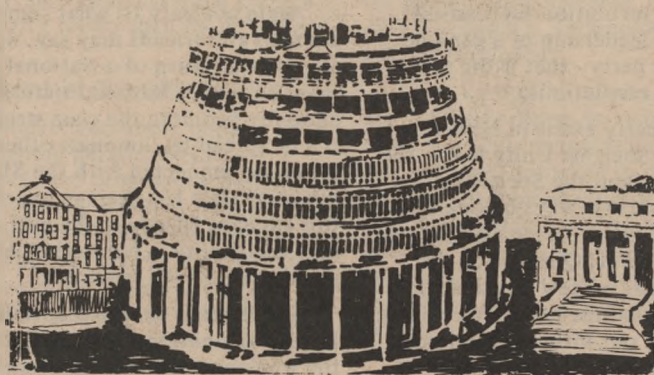
New Zealand politics has had an unsettling time in the last six years. A landslide victory to Labour, followed three years later by a landslide back to National has, according to Mr Levine, awoken an unusual interest in New Zealand politics. It has also introduced a degree of confusion that is probably new. People watching for signs since the 75 National victory have had four by-elections to go by: the Nelson, Mangere, Pahiatua and Rangitikei, won by Labour, Labour, National and Social Credit respectively. That doesn't give much away, and the spectacle of each party claiming massive gains on each poll, regardless of who actually won, does nothing to help.

Okay, the question is; does this book leave the reader with any clear idea of what is going on, and even what is going to happen next? Well, it has a lot of interesting contributions, and information; but as an overview of the state of New Zealand politics in 1978 it's... um... not exactly the definitive work. In a way this is only to be expected from an anthology, where each contribution will naturally tend to highlight a particular issue rather than contribute to a coherent survey.

review

Politics in New Zealand

Stephen Levine



But what I am doing is criticising the book for what it is not. If you are looking for a general introduction to the coming elections, this isn't the book.

As a book for people interested in political studies, in a fairly academic way, it's spot on. There's a lot of material on local bodies and local government, including a low-down on the politics of inequality in Christchurch by Kevin Clements, who was developing a bit of a reputation for stirring when I was down that way last year.

People tend to get mesmerised by all the ritualised shouting that goes on in Parliament and the melodramatics of election campaigns, and very little is known by most people about the comparatively quiet (and occasionally underhand) work that goes on in Parliamentary Committees and Commissions. The book has some illuminating chapters on this aspect of political power in New Zealand.

The chapters by National M.P. Marilyn Waring and Michael Minogue (on Parliamentary reform and 'Power and the New Zealand M.P.') are quite disappointing after these M.P.'s well-known clashes with the leadership of their party. They don't give much away.

Bruce Beetham's article on proportional representation is convincing, and there aren't any plugs for Social Credit slipped in at all. More disappointingly there isn't a chapter on the Social Credit party, which is still a bit of an enigma to most of us, and although Values is mentioned on the back cover it is hardly even mentioned in the book itself, beyond a couple of paragraphs in the chapter on the Nelson by-election. It isn't even written off; it's just ignored, which seems hardly fair.

The section on pressure groups, and the conflicts in New Zealand society that are no longer as well hidden is excellent. So is the review of the 1975 election campaign which wasn't a very gentlemanly affair, and about which there are still a number of unanswered questions, such as where some of the campaign funds came from (such as the money for National's infamous Hanna-Barbara cartoons).

So there it is. It's a rather academic book, and it doesn't meet the very real need for a book giving a form-guide for the coming elections, but it is a collection of very interesting papers on the New Zealand political scene.

\$9.95 is what you can expect to pay for a book nowadays, and if you're seriously interested in the local political scene, you could do a lot worse.

ALAN WHELAN

SGM Tuesday 19

7.00pm Marsden

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CHAFF

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CYCLING SAM

BICYCLE POLITICS.

Most people would agree that there are many flaws in N.Z. society, but strangely very few people are active in trying to change things. The event of democracy in New Zealand at the moment is that people get to vote for one or two identical major parties once every three years, and then sit back and take what is handed out. Before we can get a more participatory democratic system to work however, we need both change in the institutions and an increase in involvement by the public. Often what seems to be required is some kind of affront to a particular persons interests - for example remember how quickly motorcyclists mobilised under threat of \$80 registration fees early this year, or consider how the anti-apartheid and anti-nuclear power groups have died down when the major contacts or proposals they opposed have faded. One of the fortunate things about the rather primitive state of cycling facilities in this country is that you don't need to be a very perceptive cyclist to start getting pissed off. You get pissed off at potholes (and roading engineers), pissed off at needlessly long routes (and traffic planners), pissed off at being run over (and the dominance of the car), pissed off at noise and pollution (and at industry and internal combustion), pissed off at glass and beer cans (and at litter industries), pissed off at the weather, in fact all sorts of things! The great thing about these traumas (if they don't precipitate the sale of your bike), is that they motivate cyclists to work for change. Once your consciousness has become tuned to the state of the world, you are loath to allow degradation of your environment to go unchallenged.

parts has risen by perhaps 100%, (2) demand has shifted from "ordinary" bicycles to more expensive 10 speeds, hence fewer bikes per \$1000 can be imported, and (3) the demand for cycles has jumped. Hence the supply especially of more exotic frames and equipment has been severely restricted, falling by perhaps two thirds over the last four years or so. Theoretically the import restrictions have two functions. (1) to protect local industries and (2) to save overseas funds. Only two tenspeeds are made locally. The Healing (Christchurch) is a robust but heavy frame available in only one size (22½" frame), and the Raleigh Arena (basically replacing the Olympus) is soon to be available with 27" wheels but also comes in only one size (22"). Hence anyone who is not 5' 6" tall, or wants a good quality frame, is out of luck and must scabble for an import. Short people who are unable to even make do on larger frames, are especially disadvantaged (just try and buy a 19½" frame in N.Z.!!). As to whether it saves overseas funds to withhold \$300 bicycles so people have to buy and use \$4,000 plus cars which run on (imported) petrol - I'll leave that one up to you.

Duty on cycle gear seems to be around 20 to 20 per cent, I wasn't able to find out precisely. This is not as heavy as some goods but again this tax must be counter-productive for the country in the long run (consider the higher roading and medical costs of cars for example).

Government also has a peripheral role in the construction of country roads by the National Roads Board and Ministry of Works. These roads are used by small but growing numbers of bike tourists, and danger spots like narrow bridges need some attention.

However the major thrust of bicycle promotion is at local government, who control the towns where most of us live and the streets where most of us ride. As outlined

in Peter McDonald's 'Changing Gear' the obvious time to press for changes is during a review of the District Scheme. It is beyond the scope of this article (and this writer) to delve into the cycle path/mixed with traffic argument, but in any particular area cyclists can usually agree on certain improvements in facilities worth pressing for. Such action is currently under way here in Palmerston North on the Revised District Scheme, and other groups through the country are also active. The newly-formed Dunedin Cyclists Coalition, which strangely seems to be poorly supported by students (though ex-Chaff editor, Allan Cumming is prominent) has recently presented submissions to the D.C.C. The oldest cycling pressure group of them all, the Bicycle Planning Committee, rolls on in Christchurch and has just produced an excellent cycling issue of the Canterbury Environment Journal. Cyclists in Wellington have been getting organised, and Ecology action in Napier and FOE. in Auckland are working on cycling in those areas.

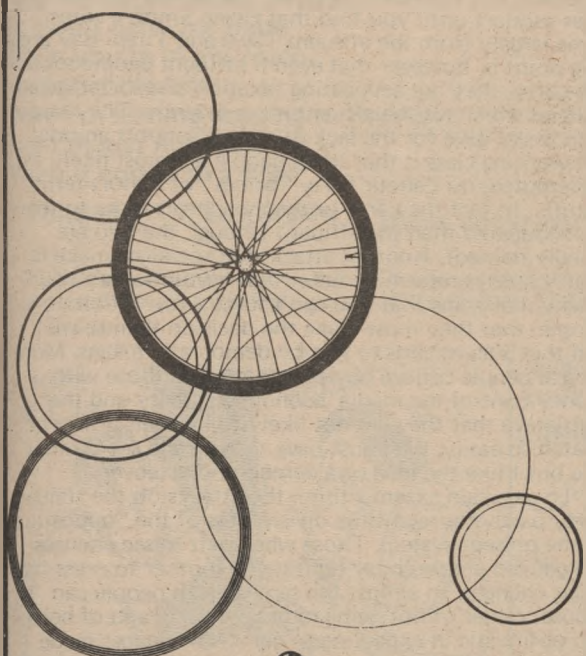
Also indicative of the trend is the increased number of Student newspapers which sport a cycling writer. I think Chaff may claim longest tenure but Canta now has a permanent column and Critic, Nexus and Craccum have had sporadic stories.

This has been only an overview of the bicycle planning scene, but for more information get hold of Peter McDonald's 'Changing Gear' published by FOE. Its currently sold out but should enter its third print run in a couple of months. Alternatively write to Peter, the F.O.E. cycling co-ordinator, care of Rangitoto Farm, R.D. Bulls. For more information on the Canterbury Environment Centre write to P.O. Box 2547, Christchurch. Or write to me care of "Chaff", M.U.S.A. Palmerston North.

Cycling Sam.

CHANGING GEAR

Why and How to Promote Cycling in New Zealand



FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

Once you have been motivated to action about cycling what bodies come under your zealous scrutiny? The main targets are central and local government. For a change central government has a minor role to play, because most of the concerns of the cyclist are local. In fact it is a measure of the more human scale of the machine, that cycles are largely regulated, and affected by, local decisions and organisations. Bicycle power is much closer to your community than for example, control over the car with its national taxes, registrations, insurance policies, international price agreements (eg. oil) and national enforcement agencies (would the MOT exist if only bicycle traffic was present?)

There are a few areas where Government is important however. Most 10 speed frames and nearly all other components (gears, wheels, brakes, etc.) are imported and these goods are subject to import licensing and duty. The former is especially important as the dollar value of import licences has only been increased by 7% over the last four years. In this period (1) the price of equivalent



Dear readers
Things don't have
to be this way.

Chaff

FUCK! what will the bourgeoisie

VALUES

Two weeks ago the leader of the Value Party, Tony Kunowski, was in Palmerston North to address several meetings. I took the opportunity to gather the information for this personal summary of Values' position, and likely prospects for the party in the future.

The party was formed just before the 1972 general election and contested 47 seats in that election, gaining about 2% of the vote. It went through some organisational problems in the next few years but contested the 1975 elections with a candidate in all 87 electorates. Despite the fact that this meant there were candidates in rural electorates where Values support is weak, the party gained 5.4 percent of the total vote. The party's big worry in the 1978 election is whether this share of the vote can be increased. There are several distinct problems facing the party in this task. The first is common to all small parties in this country — that the electoral system is "first past the post." If MP's were elected on a proportional representation basis, Values would already have two MP's and Social Credit, three. In the 1975 election National was given 64% of the seats by gaining the support of 39% of eligible voters. This is very important to a small party whose support is spread through many electorates because while a party has no MP's it is seen as powerless. Of course Social Credit's leader Bruce Beetham for similar reasons has organized a petition on proportional representation, but it is clear that this would be to the disadvantage of both "major" parties and so they are likely to block any moves to remove this iniquitous situation, at least in the near future.



The second problem facing the party in its attempt to increase its vote is that, of the four major parties, it has by far the lowest rate of "retained" votes, i.e. people who vote for the party in one election are not very likely to do so again. This is probably partly because it is such a new party. In recent years its policies have been in a state of flux and are only now becoming fairly well established.

This low degree of loyalty may also be related to the third major problem of Values. A common response is, "I agree with your policies, but of course since you can't be the government this year it's VITAL that I vote instead for" Some classic examples of this: Guy Salmon of NFAC who said in June at Taupo that while Values' (and Socred's) forest policies were good, that since they weren't going to be in power in 1979 that we should only seriously consider the "choice" between National and Labour. Another example was Eric Geiringer (who at least recognises that there's no point expecting National and Labour to fulfil all their extravagant promises) saying that "a vote for Values is a vote for SPUC" because it is a pro-abortion vote which doesn't get a pro-abortion candidate into Parliament in 1979, while the SPUC votes presumably do. This is very difficult for Values as anyone who wants them to be government in 1981 (say) must vote for them in 1978 so they will be taken seriously enough next time to attract more votes. In my opinion the reason people feel compelled to vote for National or Labour is that they have lost their perspective. They amplify the TINY differences between the parties to the stage where they are convinced that it really matters which we get. It's the same sort of mentality you see when people discuss the fuel savings involved in pumping up your car tyres, when what we should do is have facilities within walking distance (or cycle) and not use a car at all. Or when people debate the merits of various T.V. programmes when 99% of T.V. is utter rubbish, and the machine is probably the greatest contributor to apathy and complacency in society today; it should be done away with. I am sure many people would disagree, saying "but Muldoon is so bad, we must be rid of him at all costs!" But when you really think about it, what's the difference? Both Labour and National support the S.I.S. and Labour has said they won't repeal the SIS bill. Labour had decided in 1975 to drown the Clutha under scheme H. People were pissed off, National promised to reconsider and decided on Scheme F (even worse). National set the Wanganui Computer into action but Labour gave the OK to build it. Can you really see any difference? I feel that before people can commit themselves to real long term change, whether that be through the Values Party or any other means, they have to convince themselves that it is irrelevant what happens in the very short term, and stop wasting their energy and votes on those trivial issues.

From another point of view, the Values Party seemed unsure for a time whether they were seriously trying to get elected, or would be happy to just be a political pressure group.

To some extent however, attempting the former fulfils both functions and this seems to be their policy now. They have always said that if other parties adopt their policies, the only result is an improvement in conditions in N.Z.



What happened to my freedoms?



and this has happened to some degree. However this has not reduced the need for the party to exist as (1) the other parties only adopt the less radical and effective policies for window-dressing while keeping an essentially counter-productive basic philosophy, and (2) the others seem very poor at converting their borrowed rhetoric into actions. (Of course we haven't had a chance yet to see if Values would do any better).

When people try and pigeonhole "the Values philosophy" as left or right wing the main result seems to be getting confused. At first in those heady days of 1972 the party had a marvellously broad appeal, partly because its policies were only loosely defined. More recently they have come in from criticism from an amazing diversity of groups. Every now and then some right winger exclaims that they are just a front for "the Communists" with a Capital C. As far as I can make out the Party could justifiably be described as socialist on the strength of their economic policy. This states that capital must be under community control, so that "people employ capital rather than capital employing people." They also believe that to safeguard the right to work, and ensure that production is rational and equitable, that the economy must be cooperatively owned and controlled. In other words business should be run by their employees and the dominant role of those with wealth in the community would be ended. In the sense that these policies place control of the economy in the hands of the community I interpret them as socialists, although they differ from most "social democrat" type parties in the world which seem to advocate giving this power to the State (which seems to result in "State

Capitalism.")

It is a bizarre characteristic of the Values Party that at the same time they are accused by dedicated socialists of being right-wing. I'm sure everyone has heard the accusation that Values is a party for middle-class, affluent well-educated, Pakehas, and that of course these people are traditionally National supporters. As Kunowski pointed out however, whether anyone is middle class or not is really rather irrelevant to whether their politics is any good. What is more relevant is that Values support seems to be strongest in National areas.

In 1975 the two highest polling Values candidates were in Remuera and Porirua. Remuera is true blue National, but Porirua might lead you to suspect working class support until you find that Helen Smith's votes came largely from the affluent Tawa and Titahi Bay areas. The point is however that even if affluent people support the party, they are advocating taxation and social welfare policies which hit the affluent more severely. The reason Kunowski gave for the lack of Values support among the working class is that these people are most likely to be tempted, by Labour Party "bribes" of a short-term nature. In fact the party probably appeals more to the well-educated than the affluent (though the two are usually related). Another attack that socialists make is that Values is reformist rather than revolutionary. Kunowski maintains that you can't force a revolution on people, that they must make the decision themselves and that Values aims to win by democratic means. More radical people believe however that while those with money control the media, economic activity and the legislature that they are not likely to let their power be abated so easily. We'll just have to wait and see on that one but I like the idea of a democratic takeover.

To a certain extent I think the attacks on the Values Party partly represent the divisiveness of the "opposition" to the present system. Those who want to see changes introduced are too busy fighting each other to press for those changes. In almost the same breath people can accuse Values of not being radical enough, and of being too optimistic in expecting to get ANY changes made when things are as bad as they are now. Another criticism is that Values is trying to be all things to all people, but I feel that this does not do justice to their rather novel blend of policies which borrows elements from many political groups. Their policies are consistent, equitable and sensible, and I hope they are also fairly stable now (they used to change fairly often).

In fact examining their policies, perhaps the most valid criticism is that they are fairly idealistic and optimistic. For example their economic policy seems to work on the assumption that if people are given control of the capital and business which affect them, then they will make a good job of the economy. Their whole philosophy rests on giving more responsibility to the public.

Cynics would hold that people are not capable of running their own lives this way, and I believe that the record of both major parties shows that they do not expect (or want) people to think for themselves. They are prepared to offer solutions which require nothing from the public at large.

Values policies used to be basically environmental, and very weak in the economic sphere. I think this has

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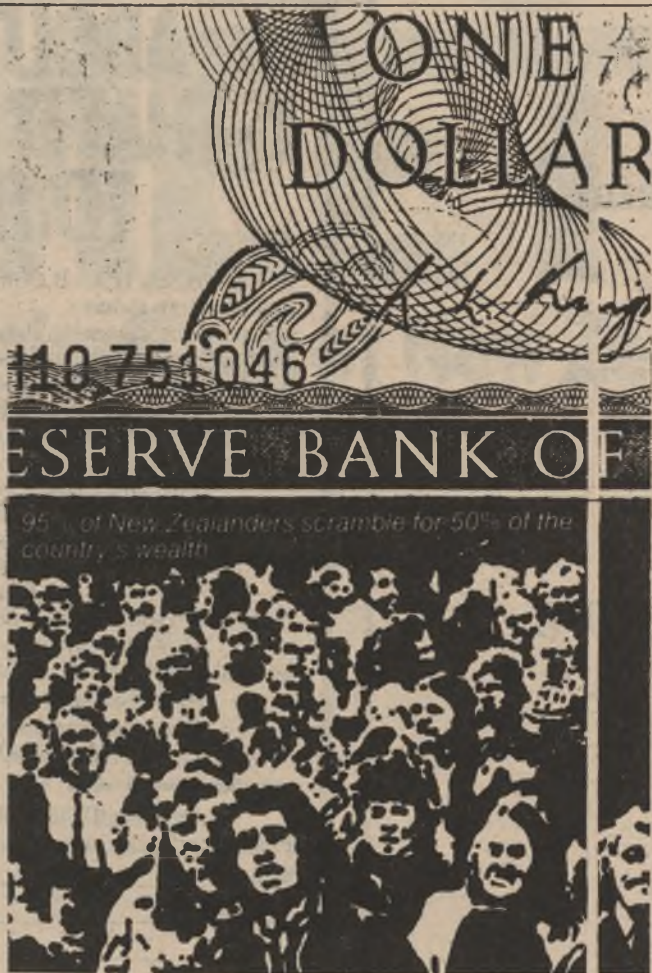
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altered. Kunowsky himself is a lecturer in economics at Christchurch Technical Institute. The environmental aspect also seems to have been played down and now civil liberties and increased democracy seem to be the major concerns. This is good if you share my views that a lot of our environmental problems stem from the excessive Government and business influence in decisions on development. If the people make these decisions at the local level, their attitude to the environment will be taken into account. When Kunowsky was here he stressed the assaults on civil liberties that Muldoon has perpetrated and also described how little similarity to a real democracy our system has. He described it as an "elected dictatorship." What he proposes is the decentralization of decision — making to give people control over their own lives at the community level and to reduce the burgeoning bureaucracy. Whether this would be possible while retaining other Values goals like increased use of the railways, increased conservation, changes in town planning and so on is not clear. The traditional way to implement these policies would be to create more bureaucracy. What Values would have to do is find a way of decreasing the bureaucracy and still doing them. Perhaps education is the answer?

The organization of the party is an example of how they want things run. The national office acts in a coordinating capacity but branches still have a lot of autonomy in a "network" system (as they call it). This can lead to problems.

For example two weeks ago, the Christchurch regional spokesman, Mr P. Heal got national publicity saying the Values Party wanted the government to bar a proposed visit by ex-President Richard Nixon. While we might agree with his aversion for Nixon the bar would clearly run contrary to Values' policies of freedom of speech — witness the Horta and South African Scholar cases. Hence the party as a whole would not, I assume, support Mr Heal's stand. Now this sort of autonomy does little real harm and is good for the branches but it has done a lot of harm to the image of the Values Party. Some of these sorts of



blunders have remained in people's minds, and create confusion about Values' true policies. That's the price of decentralization — it's not good P.R.

On the issue of personality politics, the party stress that they oppose it and that parties are more important. To an extent I agree; for example the cult around Muldoon can do no good. There are nevertheless realities which must be faced. The individual does matter. Some people feel that it's better to have a good M.P. than an M.P. from a good party. The impression made by a good candidate is important to Social Credit in Rangitikei, and to some of the high Values results. Helen Smith for example has a lot of respect in her Porirua electorate. The Island Bay branch of Values in fact had decided not to announce their candidate till the last minute in favour of a team approach, to avoid the personality issue. They found people unwilling to accept this, and were forced to announce their candidate after only a short period. And finally of course the party needs a leader. Kunowski is an articulate and impressive speaker and his role in lending credibility to the party must be significant. Like all things what is needed is a balance, and the party do not strive to build a cult around their leader (though I am sure he is as convincing, as young and as handsome as the rather overexposed leader of the Social Credit party).

If I must sum up how I think Values will do in the next few elections, I would point to the fact that their policies make real sense in these strange times to anyone who thinks about them. If a crisis develops in western capitalism as resources run out, they may shoot to prominence. However they rely on a rather informed and well-educated vote, and they count on people being sensible and responsible. For example they eschew bribes. This may limit their popularity if people are not mature and detached enough to respond to this style.

DAVE K.

A BIGGLES STORY.

Hey now, Baby, get into my big black car
I want to just show you
What my politics are.
I'm a political man
And I practise what I preach.
So don't deny me Baby
While you're in my reach.
I support the left
Now I'm leaning, leaning to the right.
But I'm just not there
When it comes to a fight

"Politician" — The Cream (What copyright?)

The cheapo Air New Zealand DC8 was winging its way back from a fact-finding tour of the Golden Dragon

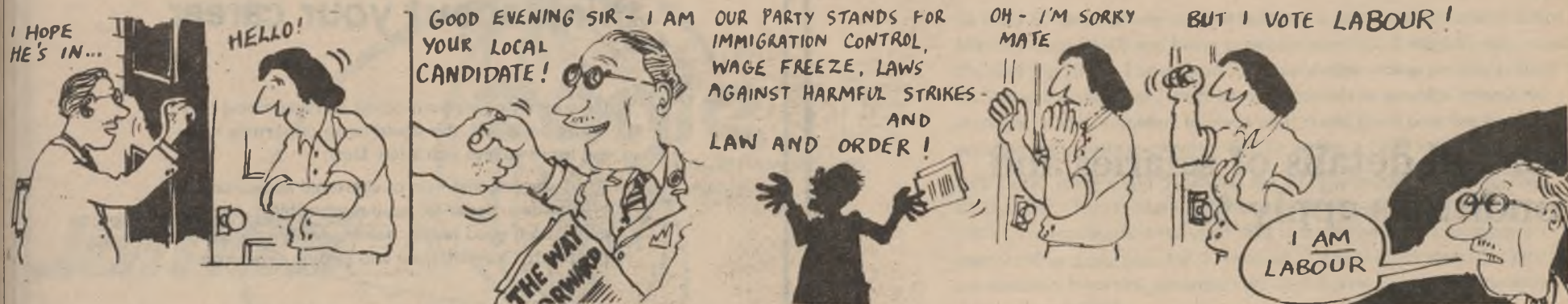
ukeleles and fruitcake to Bahrain (hence the expression "Young Turk"). In this way he was bolstering the economy, if not of Palmerston North, then certainly of Karaka Street (no exit).

Joe cursed bitterly when he thought of the massive birdseed deals he had arranged with the People's Republic of China. Nice chap that Mao. Just the right shape for a politician. Still, he reflected, all forgotten. The warm-hearted decent working man was a bit of a stupid bastard sometimes. The only reason Labour lost last time was they used too many long words. People hadn't understood what a fantastic job they'd really been doing. He sat down, looking faintly pink in the sun.

John stumbled over the reef, carefully avoiding treading on a sis bug, a species that was once fairly rare, but was thriving healthily under his big teams protective policies. These daysthere were enough for everybody from Kev Richards to Tom Skiffle. He smirked to himself when he thought of some the effeminate trendy-lefties

the party only last week, while Dave Edmunds was throwing paper darts at him and explaining that there are too intellectuals in Social Credit. As the deep depression wore on, they reached for their instant solutions and swapped recipes for a while.

It was tea time. From the wreckage of the plane they found boxes upon boxes of duty-free Watties. But try as they might, they found no trace of a can opener at all. The Values chap, who had been waiting for his chance for years now dived into the bush and started hacking up good nourishing wholemeal berries and nuts. Dave Edmunds shared off to the deserted stamp factory and started to print a requisition for a can opener. Joe looked at John. This was also the moment he had been waiting for, to show what a useful chap he really was. "This is your fault again," he said. "It was your job, and once again we have been treated to an appalling display of gross incompetence and callous disregard for the needs of the poor, the hungry, and



in Suva when it coughed embarrassingly; rubber bands and balsa wood flew off in all directions and it droned its way down to a convenient desert island. The machine's great head dipped, narrowly missing Biggles and Algy who were filming on location, and ploughed its way into a deserted stamp factory. The pilot, a veteran Truth reporter, transvestite, and Vice Squad detective, was instantly killed. Out of the wreckage, mumbling clichés and clutching shadow portfolios, stumbled the four survivors, Joe Morton, the Labour candidate John Lennon, the National candidate, Dave Edmunds, the Social Credit candidate and George Shearing, the Values candidate. (To avoid the libel suits that Chaff's a bit prone to these days, I've ripped the names out of the NME Book of Rock).

Joe was sweating uncomfortably because his hated rival John had been encircling him somewhat on the plane, popping up simultaneously on his left and on his right. John had been impressing the fans with his export year performance, selling tens of dollars worth of paddles,

around, who on the one hand were screaming that there weren't enough jobs around, and then objected when a few openings for bright young lads were created in Security Intelligence. The boys from the 'Truxton' had been good for trade, particularly in the gay night spots of Upper Queen Street. Oh well he thought indulgently, keep 'em on the streets, and out of Parliament. Anyway, when the ship girls start having mutants, that's the time to worry.

He day-dreamed for a while of the day when all the workers have four arms. Get them on your side and it should be easy to stack union meetings. Show of hands, huh? We'd show them!

Ah well, he thought to himself, better do some work. Undoubtedly, Lennon works. He spread a pile of magazines he'd picked up in Suva to show his leader, Blodwyn Pig, and began to read.

Way out in the wilderness Dave Edmunds and George Shearing were speaking strange incantations. George was explaining that there had been four workers join

the underprivileged. I have a vision... "he began, since he'd been ripping into some of the strange tropical mushrooms that he's found under the palms which always stretched out in the presence of a Labour candidate.

As Joe was speaking John began to feel more comfortable. Reality was swept away, and in a moment he was back in the comforting never-never land (Carmen once used the expression Fairyland, but paid for it dearly), of the Bee-Hive debate. He immediately reminded Joe of that black day in 1958 when long-dead members of Joe's party had hidden not only the bottle-openers but taxed the cigarette-lighters. "But that was because of the bloody mess you chaps caused in 1956" riposted Joe. "Ah, yes but..." said John. All thoughts of hunger forgotten, they carried on for days. Meanwhile, in Palmerston North there was a sense of peace and well being, and an absence of bullshit.

Christ, thought this story to itself, I wish I was true.

ALAN

Chaff

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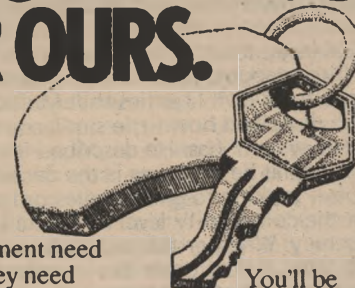
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P.O. Box 9744,
Courtenay Place,
WELLINGTON

I was sitting quietly in the Salient Office just the other day, pulling the wings off flies and sticking them on again with Bullum. Quite relaxing really. Well anyway there was this crash, then another crash, then another crash and then the phone rang. I picked up the phone and a voice said, 'Get a squid in your ear'. Suddenly the world went dim - yes, it was a power cut. I looked out the window and saw a bright flash of light. 'Is it a bird or is it a plane?' I asked in awe. 'It's a plane,' said Grant 'More of the same of the same of the same' Liddell. 'Would you like more of the same.'

At this point the conversation which had a Taihappyish ring about it, was interrupted by a Giant Panda wearing a pair of overalls about which there was a distinct odour of last year. The beast sat down and started roasting a rather pudgy arm over a rather feeble flame. That smell ... national office ... pinball machines ... but, of course, it must be Dave 'Less of the same of the same of the same' Merritt. 'Why Dave a face lift and getting your dyed.' 'Well y'know, time for a change and all that. There were reds in my beds.' But it never rains but it pours; now we had a steam engine coming into the office. No calm down, it's only Peter Franks. No, wrong

again, it's only Peter Franks torso. 'Parts two, three and four are arriving later.' He explained. He then sat down at four typewriters and played Andy Warhol's Latest composition, 'Sonata for typist's torso (in four parts)'. But what is the commotion outside? Where are those calls of 'no confidence' of 'resign' and of 'Council! Order, council!' coming from? We're not in suspense for long. In bursts President Lisa 'the bucks never left here' 'Sackson. 'I've got a squid in my ear,' she complained. 'Algy, come, come, come here quick,' screamed Merritt. 'Did I ever tell you about

University Challenge?' asked More of the Same. Things could have gone awry had not the Hon. Member for Nelson arrived snatching the squid out of the Presidential ear, blubbing 'The squid was in my ear, the Hon. Member for Rotorua said so.' Well then that that produced. It was finally resolved by the printers of this lovely piece of cultural imperialism, Wanganui Newspapers Ltd. of Drews Ave, Wanganui. Their decision was to let it be handled by the publishers, NZUSA, who are now communicating by smoke signal to save on the phone bills.

Beginning of the End

As part of its opposition to apartheid, the New Zealand University Students' Association established the Southern Africa Scholarship as a positive way to help the victims of apartheid. The first scholar came to New Zealand in 1975, and the trust was formally incorporated in late 1976. Present trust board members are Russell Marshall MP for Wanganui; Professor Ian Campbell, ex-Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the Victoria University of Wellington; Tony Neary, Secretary of the North Island Electrical Workers' Union; and the Rev. Keith Taylor of the Inner City Ministry, Wellington. There are also two representatives of the NZUSA Executive on the Board.

The Trust Deed, which provides for the selection and care of the scholar is a legal document and must be adhered to by the trustees in administering the scholarship.

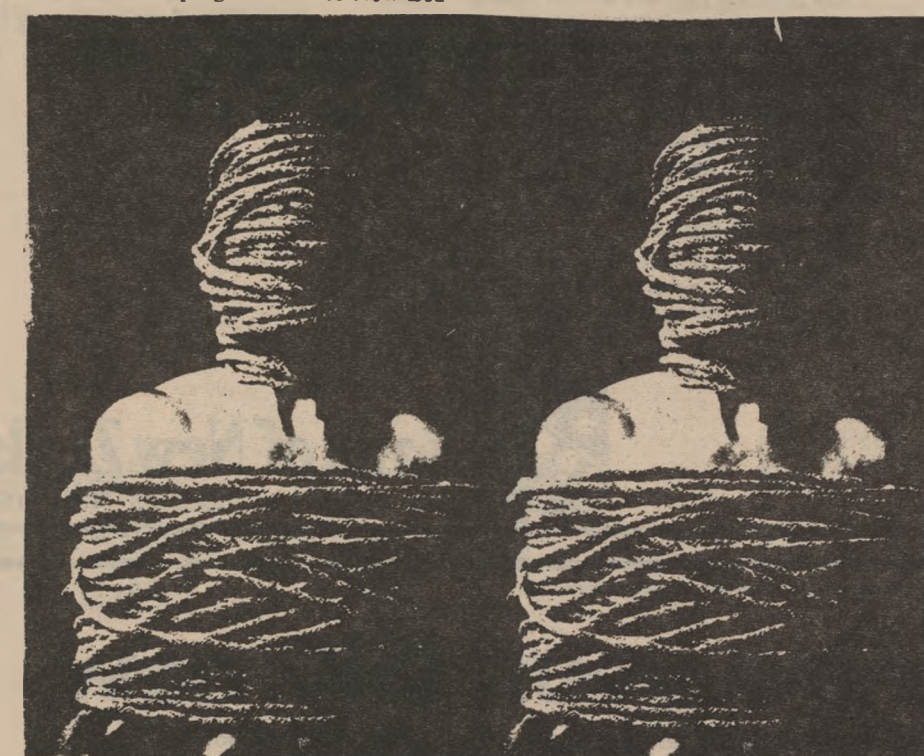
Earlier this year the Cabinet decided that the next recipient of the scholarship would be able to come to New Zealand but only if the right to become involved in 'political activity' was strictly curtailed.

The reasons the Government has given for this unprecedented move are many and various. So far they include:

- * The scholar is here to study and should not be taking up valuable time giving speeches (stated in a letter from Immigration Minister Gill was the edict that the making of political speeches was specifically prohibited).
- * The scholar should not be able to make political statements because the scholar may then experience difficulties once he or she has returned to his/her home country.
- * The last scholar was an "irritant" to the Government.
- * The last scholar allegedly made statements on Radio Windy calling for the overthrow of the New Zealand Government by force.

However these "reasons" do not stand up to close scrutiny.

Firstly, the Trust Board is well aware of the dangers of the scholar becoming too much involved in political speech-making. In fact, in the list of priorities which the Trust Board is obliged to consider in appointing a new scholar, the willingness to speak about apartheid is number five in a list of six priorities. While the Trust Board would want to see the scholar playing a part in helping to educate New Zealanders about apartheid and the miseries it produces, it does not want this to interfere with the scholar's academic work.



While the scholar is not permitted to make political speeches, white Rotary exchange students from South Africa have no limit placed on their political freedoms. Gill says there is no need for such restrictions because Rotary students live with respectable and reasonable individuals. Perhaps the weird residential qualification for the right to free speech will be followed by Gill advocating a return to residential qualifications for the right to vote!!

Secondly, as all the applicants for the scholarship are in effect political refugees, they would be unable to return to their home countries, whether they spoke out on apartheid or not. The touching concern that Gill and other National MP's say they have for the well-being of the scholar just shows how ignorant they are about the real situation in Southern Africa.

Thirdly, the last scholar may have been an "irritant" to members of the present National Party Government, but he provided New Zealanders with a real opportunity to make up their own minds about the situation in Southern Africa. The Labour Opposition is probably some form of "irritant" to the present Government, but no-one has suggested, yet, that they should be silenced although the present Prime Minister has made certain statements about banning the Socialist Unity Party.

Fourthly, although the Government has been asked repeatedly to provide proof

that the alleged statement on Radio Windy was actually made, they have not been able to do so. It is hard to believe that given the strength of the pro-apartheid forces in New Zealand in 1975 this alleged statement could have gone unnoticed.

It is worth noting that one of the Rotary students from South Africa spoke out against the present system in New Zealand and unfavourably compared it to South Africa. She was referring specifically to the notorious Suppression of Communism Act of South Africa, and commented on her disapproval of the left-wing organisations which exist in New Zealand. No action was ever taken against her. She was merely expressing her opinion and was undoubtedly living with respectable and responsible individuals - Gill's new yardstick of the right to free speech.

This latest attack on civil liberties follows hard on the heels of many other similar attacks. It demonstrates again the Government's ambiguous policy towards apartheid and Southern Africa. It also shows the complete disregard paid to the principles of democratic debate, that is, that it should be free, unfettered and informed. New Zealanders may differ in their views of apartheid but surely none are so petty-minded that they would wish to silence an opponent. Or are they?

This issue touches not just the matter of Southern Africa and New Zealand's attitude to it, but on basic freedoms that people all over the world have struggled to achieve and defend. If we let this latest attack pass, then we will be allowing one more nail to be hammered into the coffin of democratic freedom in New Zealand.

NZUSA is preparing publicity material for campuses to use in making their own protest against this action. We also hope to arrange a tour of Trevor Richards, National Chairperson of the Halt All Racist Tours movement, to speak on most campuses in the near future. We urge all students to get involved in this campaign and fight for basic democratic rights.

Question time

OK, despite rumours to the contrary, NZUSA officers are not superhuman (*Oath - typesetter*). To the 187 or so of you throughout the country that we haven't got around to saying "giddy" to, or chatting informally over a sticky table in the cafe then we offer our humblest apologies (*sound of bowing & scraping offstage*). So the idea of the great questionnaire was formed to try and find out a few things about students.

"A questionnaire", you scream with barely suppressed excitement. "What sort of questionnaire?" Well it all started some time ago during one of those nice, friendly chats with your local Minister of Education, Les Gandar. There we all were, eagerly sitting on the edges of our seats (mainly because they were b... uncomfortable) and trying to impress upon the said Minister the sad, heart-rending plight of the many

thousands of Godzone varsity & tech students who were suffering unmentionable hardships and physical deprivations due to the present low level of the esteemed Standard Tertiary Bursary.

We were in full flight, the rhetoric flowing like a well-oiled lecturer (with 25 years of lecturing experience and half a bottle of gin under his belt) when suddenly Gandar's quick, incisive mind clutched at what was surely his last defence before we hammered concessions and increases out of him which would have had horrific consequences for New Zealand's balance of payments, current account deficit and the like. No, folks. The Minister was no fool. He also leaned forward on his ministerial chair and said quietly "Prove it".

Talk about spiking the guns. Trouble was that he had us over the proverbial barrel

because in all these calls for a better deal for students, nobody has, for some years, actually tried to find out on a national basis just what students were getting in the way of income. Let it be said without equivocation however that we are not afraid to find out. No, never fear!

So the idea of the questionnaire (*that's what this article's actually about - typesetter*) was conceived. Very soon the fortunate among you will receive in the mail a copy of the questionnaire that NZUSA and the NZ Technical Institute Students' Association are producing with the assistance of the Department of Education.

It's a survey on student income and expenditure, designed to find out what the real financial situation is in the student flats and hostels around the country.

If you do get a questionnaire (and about 3000 of you will) please do the decent deed and complete it fully and accurately. We will be providing a stamped addressed envelope for you to send it back in. And don't worry about the SIS any more than you usually do - the survey is completely confidential.

It all boils down to a matter of credibility. It's in your interest to answer the questionnaire and in the long run we hope that the benefits which accrue from the survey will far outweigh the trouble and time it takes to fill it in.

We remain your most humble of servants,

THE NZUSA GANG

Once upon a Triennium

SO YOU WANT TO PLAY THE ELECTION GAME?

So it's an election year. For one year out of every three our politicians smarten up their acts, press the old conservative suits, hire publicity moguls and wind up the advertising people into a fit of comparative frenzy. The party faithfuls flock to the conferences and hear ad nauseum the themes of unity, victory and, dare I say it, "a better deal for the common person".

Yes folks, elections. Every three years (if we're lucky) under the guise of parliamentary democracy we, the chosen few get our chance to cast our vote for the future of Godzone which will be decided by numerous MPs who sit in an old building in Wellington and rule the country.

If you're still a firm believer in parliamentary democracy involving the present voting and party system, if the actions of government over the years haven't soured or turned you off politics completely, then you, my dear, sound just like the sort of person that would be falling about the place with the prospect of casting that crucially important vote later in the year.

So, you want to vote - what then?

Well, the necessary thing is to get on the electoral rolls. This is no real problem despite the present state of the electoral rolls and the degree of confusion that currently exists. But as Dr Kildare was heard to comment to a patient once, "first things first".

Who can enroll?

You are entitled to enrol for the General Election if you are:

- aged 18 years or older
- ordinarily residing in New Zealand
- have at some period lived continuously in New Zealand for one year or longer
- have lived in the electoral district for a period of three months or more;

How do I enrol?

If you have never enrolled before and you qualify by the four conditions above, then you should fill in and return an enrolment card, obtainable from a Post

Office or a Courthouse. Fill in the card and hand it back to the person behind the counter at the Post Office. Your card then goes to the Chief Electoral Officer and within a week or so you should receive an acknowledgement card in the mail telling you that your name is on the roll. Since the main roll has already closed then you should be on the supplementary roll when it is released.

If you have already enrolled (ie on the main roll) then go to the Post Office or your local library and check to see if your name is on.

The supplementary rolls remain open until the writs for the election are issued which is about one month before the election. Taking November 25 as the hot favourite, then the supplementary rolls will close about October 25.

Special votes

Only people who become eligible to vote after the supplementary rolls close (eg if you turn 18) are still able to enrol as a 'special voter'. This means that you will get an acknowledgement of your enrolment in the post which states that you are entitled to cast your ballot as a special voter. This means that although your name will not appear on the rolls used for in the polling booths to check voters, you are still eligible to vote. Special voting facilities are available in all polling booths.

Voting for students

The question is sometimes raised on behalf of students as to which electorate they should be enrolled in because many students spend a significant portion of the year in an area where they are studying and by the time of the General Election they have returned to their homes. In this case it is for the student to decide in which electorate they enrol, provided they make no attempt to enrol in both electorates.

Change of address

If you have changed your address since you last enrolled, you must notify the Electorate Office of your new address. If your new address is in a different electorate you must re-enrol. If your change of address comes too late to re-enrol, your

name will remain on the former roll, and you can vote for the electorate where you are enrolled, not for the electorate in which you are now living.

Remember!!!

- if you are eligible to enrol you must do so
- when you have enrolled you will receive a notification card through the mail
- if you haven't received a notification card, check that your name is on the roll and if it isn't, then re-enrol or complain to the Electorate Office
- even if you have received your notification card, still check to see that your name is on the roll
- you must be enrolled to cast an effective vote

Actually voting

OK, you've done what the present Minister of Justice calls your "homework" then you are able to proceed to the polling booth with a clear conscience and all that.

On Election Day, polling places are set up in convenient places, such as public halls and schools, in each electoral district.

Working at each polling booth is a Deputy Returning Officer and several Poll Clerks; it is their job to cross your name off the Electoral Roll and to prepare your ballot papers for you. He or she will tear your ballot paper from a pad of voting papers, write your electoral number on the butt in the book, place a sticker over the number on your ballot paper to ensure your vote remains secret, and then give you your ballot papers and a voting paper dealing with the Liquor Poll.

Having received your papers you will move into a private polling screen in order to cast your vote. Your paper will list the names of the candidates in alphabetical order down the left-hand side with the parties they represent on the right-hand side. Instructions on your paper will tell you to strike out the names of the candidates and parties you are not voting for. Then you will fold your paper and place it in one of the locked ballot boxes.

If you make a mistake on your ballot

paper, you may return it to the Deputy Returning Officer, who will supply a new paper for you to use.

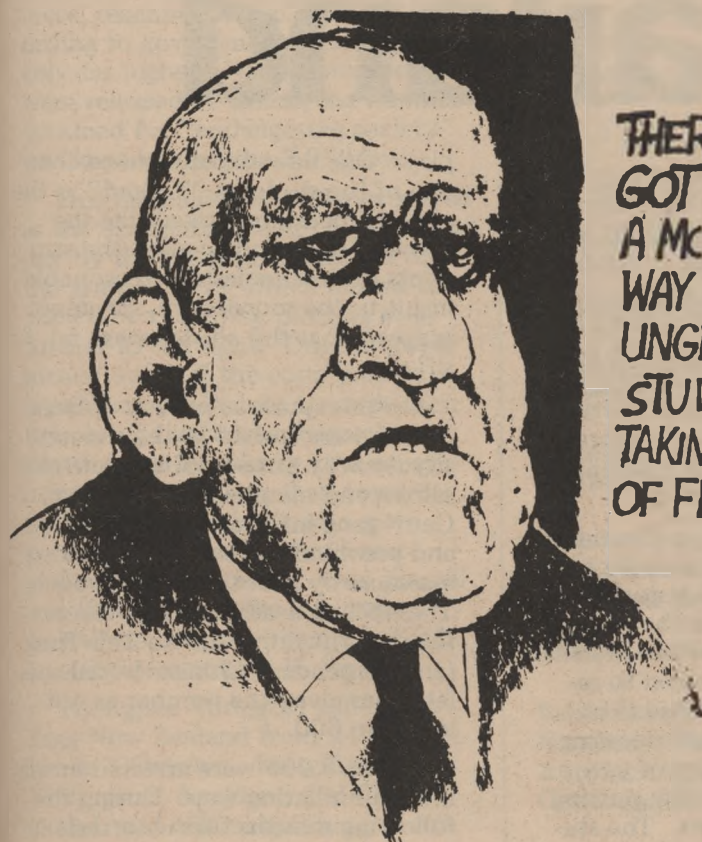
Special Votes

If you are unable to vote at a polling booth in your electorate on Polling Day you are able to cast a Special vote for three weeks prior to Election Day or on Election Day.

For details regarding Special Votes, watch your local paper or enquire at the nearest Returning Officer. You may need to cast a Special Vote if you are unable to leave your home on polling day (for example, because of illness). You can get a friend to collect Special Voting forms from a polling booth for you. With the forms there will be a declaration to fill in, which serves as a means of identification, and an envelope in which to return your ballot and voting paper to the polling booth.

If you find out your name is not on the Electoral Roll when you go to vote, you must vote as a special voter. The Deputy Returning Officer will give you an envelope with your ballot papers. After voting, seal the papers in the envelope, which will be addressed to the Returning Officer of your own electorate. The Deputy Returning Officer will ensure it is sent to the correct address.

Happy voting!



THERE'S GOT TO BE A MORE EFFECTIVE WAY TO PREVENT UNGRATEFUL STUDENTS FROM TAKING ADVANTAGE OF FREE SPEECH!!

DID YOU WORK ON THE COOK STRAIT FERRIES

LAST HOLIDAYS?

Over the last few long vacations a number of students have got jobs as stewards on the Cook Strait Ferries and have become members of the NZ Cooks' and Stewards' Union.

IF YOU WERE EMPLOYED ON THE RAIL FERRIES LAST HOLIDAYS (or prior to that) AND IF WANT TO DO THE SAME JOB IN THE COMING HOLIDAYS YOU SHOULD WRITE TO:

LINDY CASSIDY,
PRESIDENT,
V.U.W.S.A.
PRIVATE BAG
WELLINGTON.

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND NOTIFY HER OF THE NUMBER OF YOUR UNION 'BOOK'.

Unfortunately there is

guarantee at the moment that students will be able to get jobs on the rail ferries these holidays, but students who have done this work previously should contact VUWSA so that the association can (a) determine the number of students who hold union books and are seeking jobs on the ferries and (b) compile an accurate list of such students. In accordance with longstanding custom and practice students who already hold union 'books' will be given preference on the job register over non-book holders.

The aim of these preliminary arrangements is to organise this scheme better and to avoid problems which arose over the last long vacation when a number of students were disappointed in their hope of getting jobs in the rail ferries.

Between Frank Gill

The New Zealand University Students' Association has always had an abiding interest and concern for the well-being of overseas students in New Zealand. Lately this has advanced to the point where a special standing committee of NZUSA has been formed called the National Overseas Students' Action Committee. Presently this committee is funded from the NZUSA budget, but it is hoped that in the future it will become a completely autonomous body for overseas students. Given the commitment that NZUSA has towards the question of overseas students' rights this article will set out the actions of the government in this area over the last few years.

The cut-back of Malaysian students

Probably the most important decision that has been taken by the present government in the field of private overseas student policy was to announce that the number of students from any one country would not be able to exceed 40% of the total number of overseas students in New Zealand. Because so many students come to New Zealand from Malaysia, this meant an overall reduction in the numbers of overseas students as well as a significant drop in the number of Malaysian students. In 1977 there was a reduction of nearly 38% in the number of first year entrants from overseas and a drop of 46% on the number of first entrants accepted from Malaysia. At the same time as this policy was announced, the government also said that the Middle Eastern countries would now be able to send students to New Zealand.

This plan for cutting back the number of Malaysian students in New Zealand was devised by the Labour Government and put into practice by the National Government. It was designed to limit the amount of criticism voiced about the regime in Malaysia by overseas students in New Zealand. At the same time that the cut-back was announced in New Zealand, both the British and the Australian Governments began moves to limit the numbers of Malaysian students also. These governments were, however, far more subtle than our own. The British Government proposed that overseas students should

pay higher fees at universities than British students, and the Fraser Government suggested that overseas students should pay fees, while Australian students pay none.

The cut-backs were fought in New Zealand in 1976, 1977 and 1978. And this battle will doubtless continue for many years to come.

The "Marriages of Convenience" issue

In 1976, Mr Gill, the Minister of Immigration announced that all overseas students who marry New Zealanders would not be able to apply for permanent residence as of right, but would have to serve a two-year probationary period to ensure that they had entered into a 'real marriage' and not one solely to obtain permanent residence in New Zealand. Mr Gill said at the time that he had evidence to show that such 'marriages of convenience' had been taking place. Although pressured by NZUSA he refused to release such evidence.

While this new regulation may have affected only a few overseas students, the implication that was made, that overseas students are likely to procure marriages, not out of love or affection, but because they seek a material gain of some sort, was an insult to the integrity of all overseas students. The charges that the Minister of Immigration made must have been untrue, or he would doubtless have been delighted to release all the details to the press.

This appalling piece of racism was rescinded this year in May. I was phoned up at May Council and told about it by an official of the Labour Department. He gave as the reason for getting rid of the regulation the fact that the Department had not been able to find any abuse of marriages that would warrant its continuation. He also said that the case that NZUSA had put forward had eventually found favour with the Interdepartmental Committee on Private Overseas Students Policy. While undoubtedly both these factors had some effect, the lingering doubt in my mind is that, because the Prime Minister's daughter married a private overseas student, this proved more



compelling to Mr Gill than did the true, logical arguments propounded by NZUSA.

The James Movick case

At August Council 1977, James Movick was overwhelmingly elected to be the International Vice-President of NZUSA. Yet the New Zealand Government would only allow him to remain in New Zealand to carry out his job for a matter of months. The reason they gave for this was that James had not achieved sufficient success in his academic work for him to be granted the privilege of working for the national university students' association.

James was threatened with deportation and decided that rather than risk this fate he would go home. For a number of days he was in hiding. During this time officers of NZUSA and his flatmates were kept under observation to try and find out where he had gone. Simple-minded attempts were made to entrap both James and the Association.

So great was the association's comm-

itment to the cause of James remaining in New Zealand to carry out his job that over \$3,000 was expended on legal fees. Attempts were made to try to find other solutions but they unfortunately failed.

The question of graduation

The Labour Department has recently announced that overseas students who complete their degrees in the minimum time will no longer have the right to apply for permission to stay to attend the graduation ceremonies. The reason given for this is that sponsored overseas students may not do this and that private overseas students should be brought into line with them. This, of course, is not an excuse for what the Government is trying to do, but a bureaucratic justification of its stand.

Presently both NZUSA and the National Overseas Students' Action Committee are taking action against this stand, and both organisations are looking for the support of their membership to get rid of this pernicious piece of policy.

Justice in Thailand



Thongpao Thongbai is the leader of the lawyers group which is defending the 18 people arrested during the takeover of Thammasat University just prior to the coup of October 1976.

The majority of those arrested are students. They have been imprisoned since October 1976, and their trial before a military tribunal is expected to drag on for several years. Those arrested have been accused of a variety of crimes, the most serious of which are lese majeste and promoting communism.

The charge of promoting communism was only brought against the 18 five months after they were originally captured and imprisoned.

Since the coup of October 1976, the people of Thailand have suffered a loss of all the freedoms they wrenched from a right wing dictatorship in October 1973.

The interlude of democracy which followed this uprising of students and workers in October 1976, was rudely shattered by the continuing downturn in the Thai economy, the upsurge in worker and peasant activity and the inability of the democratic government to control the people of Thailand in the interests of the feudal landlords, the foreign interests which control Thailand's economy and their friends.

All this culminated in the massacre at Thammasat University on October 6th 1976. The students were protesting against the return of the exiled dictator Field Marshall Thanom, who was allowed to re-enter the country as a Buddhist monk. They were also protesting against the police killing of two trade union activists while putting up anti-Thanom posters. The students dramatized this atrocity in a

play. One newspaper claimed that one of the students "hanged" in the play deliberately looked like the Crown Prince and accused the students of 'lese majeste' (treasonable insult to the monarchy). Evidence suggests that the photos were falsified.

On this spurious pretext Village Scouts were rushed to the university; heavily armed police units closed in; and members of the 'Red Gaur' gang infiltrated the campus and provided the excuse for the massacre by shooting at the police. The official death toll is given as forty or fifty, but the Po Tek Tung (an independent Chinese burial society) has given the number as not less than 300.

About 3,000 were arrested in the most humiliating way. During the following months further arrests were carried out against politicians,

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The review of Private Overseas Student Policy

On June 26, the Cabinet instructed the Interdepartmental Committee on Private Overseas Student Policy to conduct a review of policy. You might think that this is a good opportunity to bring up many of the complaints that overseas students have with the Labour Department, but there are a number of factors which militate against such an occurrence.

The first of these is the date of the deadline for submissions, which is 30 September. As the organisations making submissions were only informed of the review by a letter received by 21 August, this does not leave very much time for people to do the investigation necessary and to write decent submissions.

The next factor is the terms of the review. They are at the same time too wide and too narrow. They are:

(i) the level in terms of overall numbers, and the countries and regions from which New Zealand might reasonably continue to admit private overseas students, and the types of study in New Zealand which should be open to such students;

(ii) whether a certain length of stay (in New Zealand) should be a factor in granting permanent residence to overseas students;

(iii) whether the aim of allowing private overseas students to study in New Zealand should be directed towards recruiting students as potential immigrants or towards providing assistance to the future development of the students' home countries, or a combination of both depending on individual circumstances;

(iv) the administrative rules necessary to implement any recommendations.

The terms are too wide in that they refer to matters which are part of New Zealand's international policy, such as it is. I doubt very much if any decision of even the best intentioned review would have much effect on government policy of this nature, or would result in fundamental changes to this policy.

The terms are too narrow in that they do not allow any opportunity to comment on the present regulations affecting over-

seas students. Under the present terms of the review we may not, for example comment upon the regulation affecting graduation, employment of overseas students, the Education Advisory Committee, or any of a multitude of matters having considerable power over the lives of overseas students.

The third factor is that the form of the review is as yet unclear. Will it simply be a matter of all the organisations sending in their submissions and the Interdepartmental Committee sifting through them to find those which are most in accord with the government's view? Will people have the right to speak to their submissions? Will there be the right for organisations to discuss these matters amongst themselves with the Labour Department looking on and taking account of what is said? I fear that the first alternative will be the one used.

Therefore NZUSA and NOSAC will be calling a meeting of all the universities, the University Grants Committee, the Entrance Board and the Labour and Education Departments to discuss these matters prior to the closing date of the submissions. We will have to force the consultative process on the Labour Department as it appears to have no idea of what this process means or looks like.

Repression

The above illustrates the way in which the rights of overseas students are treated by the New Zealand Government. But one must analyse these trends.

Obviously as the economic crisis deepens in New Zealand, the New Zealand government will be forced to take a more reactionary and fascist stand towards its own people. It will also enforce this position on visitors to New Zealand. However it is the actions of their home governments that most noticeably affect overseas students in New Zealand, rather than the stance the New Zealand government may take.

There is a two-way relationship between the political positions of the home countries of overseas students and the position of their host countries. When the two countries are in economic difficulties and their political systems are getting more and more repressive, then there is

nothing to stand in the way of the most blatant attacks on the civil liberties and rights of overseas students.

During the last five years, New Zealand has been going through a grave economic crisis which has forced the New Zealand government to introduce repressive measures against New Zealanders. It has also meant that it finds it easier to concur with repressive home governments in reducing the freedoms of overseas students.

It would appear on the surface that an immediate response to these attacks on the rights of overseas students would in some measure ameliorate the conditions placed on overseas students. However two factors have mitigated against this.

Firstly the attacks have always utilised the practise of "divide and rule". If you look over the matters mentioned in this article, there is hardly one occurrence where this policy has not been used to some advantage. In the cut-backs issue, the government used the division between the differing national groups. Many students from places other than Malaysia did not take part in the struggles against the cut-backs because they believed, wrongly as it turned out, that a lowering of numbers of Malaysians would mean an increase in the numbers from their home countries.

In the case of James Movick, some overseas students took the position that James should not be defended because he did not do well in his academic work. The marriages of convenience was passed over by some people because they felt that overseas students shouldn't marry New Zealanders (out of some perverted inverse racism).

The graduation issue placed in conflict those with immaculate academic records and those who got through with a few fails against them. It further set New Zealanders against overseas students because of the mistaken belief that some held that overseas students remaining in New Zealand and to graduate would deprive local students of jobs. Overseas students are not allowed to take jobs.

And of course in all these struggles, it is the easiest thing in the world to separate overseas students from New Zealand students, to allow the latent racism to

come to the fore and lead a lack of solidarity and great apathy.

To short circuit the plans of the governments both in New Zealand and overseas, the greatest possible amount of unity must be achieved. There must be unity between the different national groups and between overseas students and New Zealand students. All attempts to use racism of any variety to destroy this unity must be exposed and discarded. Those persons both within and without the overseas student movement who resort to this kind of propaganda to make their points should be ignored. They probably have reasons other than those of debate for making these noises.

Eventually an independent overseas students' movement must be built, incorporating all the national groups in a fair and democratic manner. This organised form of unity will greatly enhance attempts to struggle against the attacks of government. However before this happens, it is vital that all overseas students realise the community of their concerns, and place greater emphasis on building this understanding.

Equal relationships must also be built between overseas students and New Zealand students. For this to succeed the impetus must come from both sides. At least the leaders of the constituent associations acknowledge the relationship that should exist between overseas students and New Zealand students. The task now is to deepen this understanding and to create real unity between all sections of students.

Unity has to be built on a real base of common concern, concern not only about the attacks on overseas students' rights, but also about the social and political movements in New Zealand, Malaysia, Singapore, Fiji, Samoa, Bangladesh, etc. which make these attacks viable. To neglect to do this would be to form an opportunistic unity which would have little effect and not last long.

Lisa Sacksen

intellectuals, workers and students, both in Bangkok and in the provinces, reaching a total of 7,300 according to government figures, probably far higher. While a number were released or bailed, the number detained for "endangering society" was kept around the 3,000 level.

This premeditated violence served as the excuse for a coup on the same day by the supreme command of the armed forces, which moved to pre-empt a coup by plotters even further to the right. Once more, it turned out that the coup-makers were far more lenient towards their right-wing rivals, like themselves plotting the overthrow of a constitutional government, than towards the left-wing students who were participating in a legal and non-violent demonstration. One general was allowed to retire to a monastery while another was shipped off to a diplomatic post in Japan.

Thongpao Thongbai will be visiting New Zealand from 24 September to 1 October. He will travel to Wellington, Auckland and Christchurch and will be speaking to students and other groups in each cen-

tre. He will be able to provide New Zealand students with an up-to-date picture of what is going on in Thailand. Show your support for the Thai students by going to his meetings.

TOUR BY TONGBAI TONGPAO

Wellington Engagements

Sunday, Sept 24, 8 p.m.
Reception, Lounge.

Monday, Sept 25, 12 noon
Student meeting Union Hall

Monday Sept 25, 8 p.m.
Public meeting, YWCA Rata
and Rimu Rooms

Palmerston North, Tuesday 26 Sept.
Hamilton, Wednesday 27 Sept.
Auckland Thursday 28 Sept.
Christchurch, Friday 29 Sept.



Women workers in struggle at the Standard Garment factory. Since the fascist coup in October 1976, all strikes and stoppages have been declared illegal.

As part of the Review of Private Overseas Students Policy, presently being undertaken by the Government, NZUSA is calling for submission from its members to collate as part of its submissions.

We are particularly concerned to obtain the opinions of overseas students in New Zealand. All material given to NZUSA for this purpose will be treated as

confidential unless specified otherwise.

If you have any views that you think should be taken into consideration please write to;

The President
NZUSA,
P.O. Box 9047.
WELLINGTON.

Slaying Dragons

May sees the gathering of the delegates at Lincoln College. The agricultural hall has just celebrated their proud centenary a few days before. Will NZUSA make it even half way? With a jubilee approaching in 1979 there are those of us pessimistic about getting there as one body and not seven individual campuses. Three of the campuses, Lincoln, Massey and one of the oldest universities in the country, Canterbury, are under threat of withdrawal.

The International Vice-Presidency is abolished, there is some cosmetic work done on the other Vice Presidencies - National becomes General, and Education expands in name to become Education and Welfare, we change the voting rules - all policy must have the support of a majority of members. Will it be enough?

But there must be more than just the structural alterations built at Council. Will we see a new mood on the campuses? A quick count is done - Otago President Guest seems pleased but hopes to extract more at the next Council in August, Auckland have made strenuous efforts, so has Victoria who have curbed their natural enthusiasm in the interests of unity. But... That monument of Lincoln reasonableness, Guy Macindoe, upon whom so much depends if Lincoln is to remain in NZUSA is about to leave; the political situation is still confused, and there is no-one in sight to replace Stephanie Dale, the former Education Vice President who left in a clicking of knitting needles and a torrent of personal abuse.

Who is this unknown from Otago who has been unanimously elected at a special general meeting to assume the position that Stephanie Dale has left vacant? Grant Liddell is described by the Otago newspaper 'Critic' as a man with "sincere in-

terest". Well, he's got the support of Lincoln, Massey and Canterbury. Maybe there's hope yet.

Things move quickly in National Office. The new recruit is put behind a desk and told to get on with it. We see immediate action taken by the National Officers on the latest tax measures announced in the Budget, and the Minister promises a quick resolution of the problem. But do the students notice that things are looking up? Do they know the work that is being done for them?

A huge crowd fills the ballroom at Ilam. The scene is set. Will President Lee lead his campus out into the political wilderness or will the forces of righteousness and goodness triumph? There is the prize - the hearts and minds of the Canterbury people. Whose will they be? The speakers line up. One by one they deliver their pieces. A lengthy and complex procedural wrangle takes up much time and loses the attention of many. Still no way of gauging the feeling of the meeting.

With cigarette on the droop and discarding his Pierre Cardin suit jacket, Andrew Guest from Otago takes up the microphone. Which side is he on? He was calling for Saksen's head not so long ago. Is the bloodlust still there? But what's this transformation from rabid NZUSA hater to a defender of the cause? Well, he's winning them over. Have we got them back? Yes, love those Canterbury people, they've seen the light.

One down and two to go. Massey makes its mind on August 2. NZUSA sends in its troops. Saksen and Liddell are ready to do the work that will convince the Massey masses that the right decision

is to stay in the team. The ground work has been laid by the ever-diligent Peter Franks, NZUSA's Research Officer. He has done sterling work on behalf of the beleaguered Social Work students at Massey. The nasty Education Department has been trying to take away their bursaries. Shame! Sir Peter to the rescue! He slays the vicious dragon that lurks in the Government Buildings in Lambton Quay and the Social Work students are saved. NZUSA wins again! And do the Massey people know it. They are ready to embrace their favourite national body of students with open arms.

Now the toughie, Lincoln, that bastion of rustic habits and the literary giant of the south, 'Caclin'. This will be the crunch. Jan Atkinson, the Lincoln President is worried; should she try and get the saviour of Canterbury, young Andy Guest, to do a repeat performance. Wise counsel argues against such a move. Mr Guest has just left the presidency of Otago to assume a position with a finance company. How could he be explained? National Office needs some help. They've sent in their new man with the squeaky-clean image, but they need more. Call for MacEwan! The Massey President arrives and lets the Lincolnites know they are well off under the present system. 'Can they manage on their own?' he asks. There is a lingering fear that Blair Street is riddled with reds, but Liddell sets their minds at rest. I mean even their own President voted for him - he must be a good bloke. Progress is promised on a scheme that will help Lincoln students get jobs these holidays. NZUSA looks after its members. It's all quiet, reasonable stuff - not like the feverish Canterbury meeting a few weeks before. A good sensible decision is made. Lincoln's back.

But something sneaky has just happened

at Canterbury. Democracy, where are you? Canterbury by a narrow margin and with very few students voting at the Half Annual General Meeting has decided without discussion, to extend its notice of withdrawal for another year. The millstone is once again around the Association's neck.

But public support is on its way. The Government announces that the Associations Southern African Scholar, who is scheduled to come to New Zealand to study in 1979, may not be able to indulge in political activities while in New Zealand.

A major scrap is on. Where has gone the freedom of speech that we once thought we had? What about the rights of New Zealanders to hear what is going on in South Africa? New Zealanders fought and died in wars so that we might be free from tyranny. But what's happening now? The Government has decided that it doesn't want any controversy so there will be no speaking by the scholar. Support from all quarters - universities, church groups, individuals. We've got them running on this one. But are they about to give in? not yet. Intransigents like Gill are hard to shift.

Well, we've got ourselves some new officers for next year. Auntie Lisa felt that she had done her stint, and fair enough, she's been around for more years than you or I have been at university, sunshine. Merritt has gone back to Auckland; he wants to edit 'Craccum'. But they've still got Liddell. He's joined by that hard-working lad from Victoria, and Chris Gosling, the famed and well-loved leader of Auckland. It'll have them rolling in the aisles up at the House on the Hill. Imagine it, Mr Gandar, meet the new President of NZUSA, Mr Gosling. Hope he doesn't make a goose of himself.

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Work Work

Probably get a job, unless you're rich. Thousands of other students will be looking for jobs, too. And although decent-paying jobs will be scarce and the Government has yet to announce whether it will continue the special job creation scheme for students which existed last holidays, you can help yourself by following proper advice about how to go about getting a job. This article examines some fairly common beliefs among students about holiday employment and whether they have any basis in fact.

"Anyone can find a job if they really try. I'll start looking for one after exams"

Silly. There are nearly 50,000 people in New Zealand at the moment who are registered as unemployed or on special government work. They and thousands of others who haven't registered as unemployed are looking for permanent jobs. So anyone can't find a job if they "really try" and if you wait for too long you are going to miss out. If you had a job last holidays, you should contact your employer as soon as possible to see if the job will be available for you again, in other words **START LOOKING FOR JOBS NOW.**

"I'm not going to register as unemployed. I'm not an unemployed bludger."

Not registering as unemployed with the Department of Labour is the best way of ensuring that you won't get a holiday job. The Department of Labour runs all existing job creation schemes and students are eligible for placement on special work schemes. But before you can be placed on special work, or in a regular job you have to be registered with the Department for work (i.e. registered as unemployed). In addition, it is likely that the Department of Labour will run the Student Community Service Programme if this special job creation scheme for students is re-established this summer. And if this happens, students will have to be registered with the Department before they can get jobs under the scheme.

In other words, the Labour Department is the best place to go if you can't find work yourself, and you must register as unemployed to get the Department's assistance. The Department has district offices and sub offices in the following cities and towns:

Kaitia, Whangarei, Auckland, Manukau, Whakatane, Tauranga, Gisborne, Hamilton, Rotorua, Napier, Hastings, New Plymouth, Wanganui, Palmerston North, Masterton, Porirua, Lower Hutt, Wellington, Nelson, Blenheim, Christchurch, Greymouth, Timaru, Dunedin, Invercargill.

Some universities and some students' associations run their own employment services and this is another way in which you can get help to find a job this summer. But if you're too proud to ask for assistance, you won't get very far. There's no shame in registering as unemployed. People out of work didn't create the mess our country's economy is in.

"The Labour Department won't find me a job so what's the use of continually going back to report to them."

When you register as unemployed with the Department of Labour it's likely that they won't be able to get you a job straight away and so they'll send you to the Department of Social Welfare so you can apply for an emergency unemployment benefit and they'll ask you to report back to them at regular intervals. If you **don't report regularly your registration**

will lapse and you'll have to start all over again. This is silly. It's in your interests to keep reporting regularly to the Department. And if you're not satisfied with the treatment you get from the Department you should get in touch with your local students' association and get their support and assistance. Simply giving up and not going back will get you nowhere.

"All the good jobs are in the city. There's no point looking for work in the backblocks"

This is bad advice. The Department of Labour has been saying for years that students have been missing out on jobs out of the main centres because of a reluctance to leave the cities to look for work over the summer. A number of students don't want to do this because they want to keep their flats on over the summer but it would be better to get a job out of town and pay a retainer for your flat than to stay in the city and stay unemployed. Check early with your district office of the Department of Labour on the availability of jobs outside your university city this summer. The Department may be able to help you with transport costs to a job outside the city you're living in. In 1975 the Minister of Labour told NZUSA that where there is no suitable work locally, regular employment or special work may be available in another district and should any student be referred to another locality for work and have insufficient funds to meet the cost of travelling to the area, the Department of Labour is able to advance the fare required.

"Students can't get the unemployment benefit so there's no point applying for it"

Not quite right. Full-time students are not eligible for the unemployment benefit but may apply for an emergency benefit if they are at university, a technical institute or are seventh form secondary school students who intend to go on to a university or technical institute. (Secondary school students who leave school to enter the workforce on a permanent basis but can't find work are eligible to receive the statutory unemployment benefit.)

A student who applies for an emergency benefit must be a full-time student dependent upon his or her earnings for support during the long vacation, unable to find work and registered for employment (eg registered as unemployed) with the Department of Labour.

Where a student is unmarried and living at home, the Social Security Commission has regard to the ability of the parents to support him or her financially during the long vacation. In other words a means-test is applied to the parents' income. However the parents' circumstances are disregarded in any case where the student is living away from home although in every case there is a means-test on the student's own income and assets.

The above paragraphs are taken, almost verbatim, from a letter to NZUSA from the Minister of Social Welfare and therefore state current Government policy on this matter. It should, however, be pointed out that students' experience with emergency unemployment benefits has been very satisfactory. The main grounds of complaint have been delays in the payment of benefits and the parental means-test on unmarried students who are living at home (the Department of Social Welfare which administers these benefits will not release the formula it uses to means-test parents' incomes). NZUSA is presently trying to get the Government to improve its policy

on emergency unemployment benefits for students.

However you can apply for these benefits and, if you're out of work you should do so. You must register as unemployed first and the district office of the Department of Labour will give you a 'clearance' to go to Social Welfare and apply there for the emergency benefit.

"I won't join the union. Unions are no help to students. I don't want to get caught up in senseless strikes"

When you get a job you should find out from the union delegate (or if necessary your employer) whether you're covered by a union award or collective agreement and have to join the union. It's silly not to do so because if you get into difficulties and call on the union for help, it will hardly be enthusiastic about assisting you if you're a non-member. Similarly, you will hardly get off to a good start with your fellow workers if you refuse to join the union.

A number of trade unions have provided direct assistance to students in getting holiday jobs or in improving wages for students in holiday employment. For example the Public Service Association has been pushing for years, with some success, to get the State Services Commission to pay students more than the low level of wages it currently doles out to student vacation workers in the government service.

Individual students have also benefited from direct assistance from their unions in personal disputes with employers but many have been diddled by employers because of a failure to join the union and get the advice and support of a job delegate or union official.

Finally, strikes. Because students are in the work force on a full-time basis for only a short part of the year and usually have little or no long-term interest in the job they're doing, it may seem pointless to them for their fellow workers to take industrial action of whatever kind to improve wages or job conditions. But the position's quite different for permanent workers who have a long-term interest in the job and in improving its conditions and their rates of pay. Refusing to join the union or to support industrial action by other workers will do nothing to endear students to the trade union movement. In a time of high unemployment a trade union movement hostile to the particular interests of students could cut off a lot of areas of employment to students. Apart from this consideration, students should respect the fact that unlike themselves, permanent workers on their jobs have an interest and considerable stake in trying to get decent job conditions.

"Don't bother contacting the students' association for help in getting a holiday job or if you run into problems"

Short-sighted. A number of students' associations, independently or in co-operation with university welfare services, run their own employment services for students and keep registers of students looking for work. These services should be utilised although you should also register as unemployed with the Department of Labour (so you can apply for the emergency unemployment benefit and become eligible for placement on a special work scheme).

And if you run into strife with the Department of Labour, Social Welfare Department or an employer you should contact your local students' association or NZUSA (P. O. Box 9047, Courtenay Place, Wellington, phone 856-669) immediately for advice and assistance. Your students' association can help you, but only if you ask for its assistance.



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